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Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2021-22

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)001

(Question Serial No. 1400)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22 that the Government is “launching the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme to encourage enterprises to recruit and deploy local university graduates to work in the Mainland cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area”. Please advise of the following:

- (a) What is the specific work of and the estimated expenditure and manpower for the scheme this year?
- (b) The Chief Executive announced earlier that the scheme would provide 2 000 places for subsidising young people in Hong Kong to work in the Greater Bay Area. Please provide the numbers of registered job vacancies and those that have been successfully filled under the scheme, with a breakdown by occupation.

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

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) The Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme was launched and open for application from enterprises on 8 January 2021. Approved job vacancies have started to be displayed on the dedicated website of the scheme for application by eligible young people since 21 January. At the same time, the Scheme Secretariat is launching a series of publicity work to encourage eligible enterprises and young people to join the scheme. After the enterprises engaged the eligible young people, the Scheme Secretariat will vet the applications for allowance submitted by the enterprises, follow up the cases and provide assistance.

To launch the scheme, the Government allocated \$376 million from the Anti-epidemic Fund to cover payment of the allowance to employers, publicity and promotion and administrative expenses, as well as contingency fee. The relevant funding is outside

the scope of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account. The scheme is implemented through internal staff deployment within the Government. As the staff concerned also undertake other duties, the manpower and expenditure involved cannot be separately identified.

- (b) As at 28 February 2021, 204 enterprises joined the scheme offering 1 512 job vacancies in total. The Scheme Secretariat approved and displayed 1 295 job vacancies. It received 25 preliminary applications for allowance submitted by enterprises which had successfully engaged the young people concerned. The numbers of approved and displayed job vacancies and those that have been successfully filled, with a breakdown by occupational group, are provided as follows:

By occupational group

Occupational group	No. of approved and displayed vacancies	No. of vacancies that have been successfully filled
Professionals	762	18
Associate professionals	290	4
Managers and administrators	193	2
Clerical support workers	38	1
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	5	0
Craft and related workers	3	0
Others	4	0
Total	1 295	25

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)002****(Question Serial No. 0773)**

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please provide the number of placement cases eligible for joining the Employment Programme for the Elderly and Middle-aged (EPEM) in the past 3 years, with breakdowns by industry and occupation.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 71)

Reply:

Breakdowns of placements eligible for joining EPEM (known as the Employment Programme for the Middle-aged before September 2018) from 2018 to 2020 by industry and occupation are provided below:

(i) By industry

Industry	No. of placements		
	2018	2019	2020
Real estate and business services	480	627	533
Community, social and personal services	516	639	454
Manufacturing	231	341	166
Wholesale and retail trades	467	512	412
Import and export trade	127	137	97
Restaurants and hotels	406	386	217
Construction	80	137	113
Transport, storage and communications	173	174	140
Others	94	108	128
Total	2 574	3 061	2 260

(ii) By occupation

Occupation	No. of placements		
	2018	2019	2020
Managers and administration, professionals and associate professionals	161	231	210
Clerical support workers	493	580	404
Service workers and sales workers	844	873	570
Agricultural and fishery workers and craft and related workers	91	151	149
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	89	106	65
Elementary occupations	896	1 120	862
Total	2 574	3 061	2 260

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)003****(Question Serial No. 0774)**

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please provide the number of placements under the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme (WOPS) in the past 3 years by type of disabilities, industry and occupation.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 73)

Reply:

Breakdowns of the placements recorded under WOPS from 2018 to 2020 by type of disabilities, industry and occupation are provided below:

(i) By type of disabilities

Type of disabilities	No. of placements		
	2018	2019	2020
Hearing impairment	200	229	210
Ex-mentally ill persons	174	199	203
Intellectual disability	149	172	137
Chronic illness	91	132	95
Physical disability	97	86	66
Autism spectrum disorder	40	78	53
Visual impairment	35	30	19
Specific learning difficulties	4	7	15
Attention deficit/ hyperactivity disorder	6	9	11
Total	796	942	809

(ii) By industry

Industry	No. of placements		
	2018	2019	2020
Manufacturing	55	81	81
Construction	9	13	3
Wholesale, retail and import/export trades	127	191	209
Restaurants and hotels	139	148	158
Transport, storage and communications	69	130	100
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	165	164	101
Community, social and personal services	225	204	147
Others (including non-governmental organisations and schools)	7	11	10
Total	796	942	809

(iii) By occupation

Occupation	No. of placements		
	2018	2019	2020
Managers and administrators	25	32	31
Professionals and associate professionals	41	53	30
Clerical support workers	225	340	224
Service workers	161	165	158
Shop sales workers	104	90	115
Craft and related workers	5	9	27
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	7	3	10
Elementary occupations	228	250	214
Total	796	942	809

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)004

(Question Serial No. 0775)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (3) Safety and Health at Work
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please set out the following information for the past 3 years:

- (a) the number of employees' compensation (EC) claims received;
- (b) the number of EC claims involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days as a result of work injuries which were settled in the same respective year, the total amount of compensation involved and the total number of working days lost;
- (c) the number of occupational injuries listed in order of nature of injury.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) From 2018 to 2020, the number of EC claims reported under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (ECO) and received by the Labour Department (LD) in each year is set out at Annex 1.
- (b) Of the compensation claims involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days as a result of work injuries in each year from 2018 to 2020, the number of compensation claims settled in the same respective year, the total amount of compensation involved and the total number of working days lost are set out at Annex 2.
- (c) A breakdown of the number of occupational injuries in 2018, 2019 and the first 3 quarters of 2020 by nature of injury is set out at Annex 3.

**Number of EC claims
reported under ECO and received by LD from 2018 to 2020**

Duration of incapacitation of employees	2018	2019	2020
Not more than 3 days	14 789	14 641	10 269
More than 3 days*	36 788	33 780	28 487
Total	51 577	48 421	38 756

* Figures include fatal cases.

**Number of compensation claims
involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days
as a result of work injuries which were settled in the same respective year,
total amount of compensation involved and
total number of working days lost from 2018 to 2020**

	2018	2019	2020
No. of compensation claims settled in the same respective year	21 111	20 089	13 692
Total amount of compensation involved (\$million)	277.5	281.6	150.4
Total no. of working days lost*	387 270	383 826	214 461

* The number of working days lost includes both the number of sick leave days granted and taken and the period of absence from duty certified to be necessary by the Employees' Compensation Assessment Board under ECO.

Occupational injuries in 2018, 2019 and the first 3 quarters of 2020
– Analysis by nature of injury

Nature of injury	2018	2019	First 3 quarters of 2020
Sprain and strain	10 613	9 478	5 494
Contusion and bruise	8 418	7 292	4 235
Laceration and cut	4 467	4 150	2 312
Multiple injuries	3 000	2 970	2 065
Fracture	3 101	2 762	1 692
Burn (heat)	1 789	1 666	934
Crushing	1 215	1 020	574
Abrasion	1 080	893	545
Puncture wound	460	421	200
Dislocation	164	147	94
Irritation	185	159	58
Amputation	77	81	51
Burn	30	51	26
Concussion	47	51	18
Electric shock	16	26	14
Nausea	9	7	5
Asphyxia	8	3	4
Freezing	5	4	1
Poisoning	1	1	1
Others	1 279	1 690	1 679
Total	35 964	32 872	20 002

Notes:

- Occupational injury statistics are released on a quarterly basis and the latest available statistics are up to the first 3 quarters of 2020. The occupational injury statistics for the full year of 2020 will be released in April 2021.
- Occupational injuries refer to injury cases in workplaces reported under ECO, resulting in death or incapacity for work of over 3 days. The above figures are compiled by using the date of occurrence of an injury as the basis for computing occupational injury statistics so as to reflect more accurately the number of work injuries occurring in the statistical period.
- The above figures are recorded based on the information reported in Form 2 under ECO.
- “Others” is mainly related to health problems such as diseases and physical discomfort.

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)005

(Question Serial No. 0776)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please provide the following information for the past 3 years:

- (a) the numbers of prosecutions taken out and convictions secured for failure to take out employees' compensation (EC) insurance;
- (b) the numbers of prosecutions taken out and convictions secured for failure to pay periodical payments on time;
- (c) the numbers of prosecutions taken out and convictions secured for failure to report work injuries within the specified time.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 75)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

Contravention	2018		2019		2020	
	No. of prosecutions	No. of convictions	No. of prosecutions	No. of convictions	No. of prosecutions	No. of convictions
(a) Failure to take out EC insurance under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (ECO)	992	960	1 005	980	988	971

Contravention	2018		2019		2020	
	No. of prosecutions	No. of convictions	No. of prosecutions	No. of convictions	No. of prosecutions	No. of convictions
(b) Failure to pay periodical payments on time under ECO	126	64	172	116	101	68
(c) Failure to report work injuries within the specified time under ECO	7	6	4	2	4	4

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)006

(Question Serial No. 0777)

Head: (90) Labour Department

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

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please provide the numbers of imported workers applied for and approved under the Supplementary Labour Scheme (SLS) in the past 3 years, with breakdowns by industry and job title.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 76)

Reply:

Breakdowns of the numbers of imported workers applied for by employers and approved under SLS by industry and job title in 2018, 2019 and 2020 are at Annexes 1 to 4.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020:
a breakdown by industry**

Industry	No. of imported workers applied for*			No. of imported workers approved*		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1. Agriculture and Fishing	886	970	1 072	705	797	780
2. Manufacturing	390	485	274	158	176	192
3. Construction	351	561	46	589	172	218
4. Wholesale, Retail and Import/Export Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	483	448	290	197	270	228
5. Transport, Storage and Communications	68	131	38	24	9	16
6. Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	168	73	8	19	28	18
7. Community, Social and Personal Services	2 749	2 053	2 476	1 533	1 926	1 671
Total	5 095	4 721	4 204	3 225	3 378	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	2 108	1 409
2. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	553	448
3. Gardening Worker	315	247
4. Cook	302	155
5. Machine Operator	165	57
6. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	112	69
7. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	87	79
8. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	79	38
9. Waste Handling Worker	72	19
10. Others	1 302	704
Total	5 095	3 225

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2019:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	1 707	1 718
2. Gardening Worker	483	353
3. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	480	435
4. Cook	291	170
5. Machine Operator	240	83
6. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	105	86
7. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	102	73
8. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	45	37
9. Waste Handling Worker	43	45
10. Others	1 225	378
Total	4 721	3 378

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2020:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	2 199	1 511
2. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	625	474
3. Gardening Worker	437	305
4. Cook	207	158
5. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	117	90
6. Machine Operator	107	75
7. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	81	73
8. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	69	50
9. Waste Handling Worker	66	23
10. Others	296	364
Total	4 204	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)007

(Question Serial No. 0778)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (3) Safety and Health at Work
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please set out the number of workplaces inspected for occupational safety of outsourced contractors in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 77)

Reply:

In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the Labour Department conducted 336, 246 and 133 inspections respectively on occupational safety and health performance targeting at government outsourced contractors engaging non-skilled employees. A total of 555 workplaces were involved.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)008

(Question Serial No. 0779)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please set out the following information for the past 3 years:

- (a) the number of applications for the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund (PWIF);
- (b) the number of applications with ex gratia payment approved by PWIF;
- (c) the total amount of ex gratia payment made under PWIF.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 78)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) The number of applications received by PWIF from 2018 to 2020 is at Annex 1.
- (b) The number of applications approved for ex gratia payment under PWIF from 2018 to 2020 is at Annex 2.
- (c) The total amount of ex gratia payment made under PWIF from 2018 to 2020 is at Annex 3.

Number of applications received by PWIF from 2018 to 2020

Year	No. of applications received
2018	2 276
2019	3 171
2020	3 020

**Number of applications approved for ex gratia payment under PWIF
from 2018 to 2020**

Year	No. of applications approved*
2018	1 689
2019	2 524
2020	2 428

* Including applications received in the same year or before.

**Total amount of ex gratia payment made under PWIF
from 2018 to 2020**

Year	Total amount of ex gratia payment made (\$million)
2018	51.0
2019	83.1
2020	78.5

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)009

(Question Serial No. 0780)

Head: (90) Labour Department

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

Programme: (1) Labour Relations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

- (a) Please provide breakdowns of the number of labour disputes received in the past 3 years by industry and cause.
- (b) Please set out the number of claims handled in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 79)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the number of labour disputes (i.e. cases involving over 20 employees) handled by the Labour Department (LD) with breakdowns by industry and cause is set out at the Annex.
- (b) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the numbers of claims (i.e. cases involving 20 or less employees) handled by LD were 13 691, 13 755 and 10 991 respectively.

Number of labour disputes handled by LD from 2018 to 2020

(i) By industry

Industry#	Number of labour disputes
	2018
Construction	63
Wholesale, retail and import/export trades	5
Restaurants and hotels	6
Transport, storage and communications	6
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	7
Community, social and personal services	3
Total	90

Industry#	Number of labour disputes	
	2019	2020
Manufacturing	1	-
Construction	46	35
Import/export, wholesale and retail trades	6	10
Transportation, storage, postal and courier services	1	9
Accommodation and food service activities	17	24
Information and communications	-	1
Financial and insurance activities	1	-
Real estate activities	2	-
Professional, scientific and technical activities	1	-
Administrative and support service activities	-	2
Education	-	1
Human health and social work activities	-	1
Arts, entertainment and recreation	-	2
Other service activities	1	-
Total	76	85

Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification Version 1.1 (HSIC V1.1) of the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) was adopted for industrial classification until 2018. HSIC V2.0 of C&SD has been adopted for industrial classification since 2019.

(ii) By cause

Cause	Number of labour disputes		
	2018	2019	2020
Dispute involving principal contractor and subcontractor	47	27	19
Cessation of business/insolvency	14	24	31
Dispute on wages	12	18	19
Dismissal	1	1	4
Retrenchment/lay-off	6	-	1
Variation of terms of employment contract	-	1	4
Others	10	5	7
Total	90	76	85

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)010

(Question Serial No. 0782)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please provide the number of prosecutions taken out in the past 3 years with breakdowns by industry and reason.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 81)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

From 2018 to 2020, the Labour Department (LD) processed 7 402 summonses heard and 6 474 summonses were convicted under Programme (4). The numbers of summonses heard and summonses convicted with breakdowns by industry and reason for taking out prosecution are at Annexes 1 and 2 respectively.

**Numbers of summonses heard and summonses convicted
processed by LD under Programme (4) from 2018 to 2020
with a breakdown by industry**

Industry	No. of summonses heard	No. of summonses convicted
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	1 613	1 421
Catering	1 212	1 074
Community, social and personal services	1 164	970
Wholesale/retail trade	1 132	1 056
Construction	1 004	781
Import/export trade	654	634
Transport, storage and communications	438	392
Manufacturing	143	125
Hotels	8	8
Others	34	13
Total	7 402	6 474

**Numbers of summonses heard and summonses convicted
processed by LD under Programme (4) from 2018 to 2020
with a breakdown by reason for taking out prosecution**

Reason for taking out prosecution	No. of summonses heard	No. of summonses convicted
Failure to take out employees' compensation insurance	2 985	2 911
Wage offences	2 362	1 914
Holiday offences	715	674
Default on awarded payment of the Labour Tribunal/Minor Employment Claims Adjudication Board	612	490
Failure to pay periodical payments under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance	399	248
Failure to keep record of employees	8	8
Others	321	229
Total	7 402	6 474

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)011****(Question Serial No. 2830)**

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please set out the number of trainees placed into on-the-job training (OJT) vacancies under the Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP) in the past 3 years with breakdowns by industry and occupation.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 72)

Reply:

YETP operates on the basis of programme year, running from September each year to August of the following year. Breakdowns of the number of trainees placed into OJT vacancies in the past 3 programme years (i.e. the 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20 programme years) by industry and occupational group are provided below:

(i) By industry

Industry	No. of trainees placed into OJT vacancies		
	2017/18 Programme year	2018/19 Programme year	2019/20 Programme year
Construction	1 018	955	763
Community, social and personal services	360	322	237
Government sector	202	158	117
Transport, storage and communications	216	180	116
Wholesale, retail and import/export trades, restaurants and hotels	167	150	77
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	206	163	76

Industry	No. of trainees placed into OJT vacancies		
	2017/18 Programme year	2018/19 Programme year	2019/20 Programme year
Manufacturing	33	41	19
Others	62	35	30
Total	2 264	2 004	1 435

(ii) By occupation

Occupational group	No. of trainees placed into OJT vacancies		
	2017/18 Programme year	2018/19 Programme year	2019/20 Programme year
Craft and related workers	1 404	1 293	998
Clerical support workers	299	213	148
Associate professionals	165	115	126
Service workers	178	201	91
Sales workers	171	150	64
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	14	9	2
Elementary occupations	15	16	1
Others	18	7	5
Total	2 264	2 004	1 435

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)012

(Question Serial No. 2095)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Selective Placement Division (SPD) of the Labour Department (LD) provides employment services for job seekers with disabilities fit for open employment. Please provide in table form the situation in each of the past 3 years:

- (a) How many persons with disabilities secured employment under this scheme?
- (b) How many establishments participated in the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme (WOPS) to engage persons with disabilities? What was the average amount of allowance granted by LD for each placement?
- (c) What were the types of work and ranks in which persons with disabilities were engaged?
- (d) What are the numbers of applications and approved cases under the retention allowance scheme since its implementation by LD last year?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) SPD of LD provides employment services for job seekers with disabilities fit for open employment. It implements WOPS which encourages employers, through the provision of an allowance, to engage persons with disabilities and provide them with coaching and support so as to enhance their employability. In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 796, 942 and 809 placements recorded under WOPS.
- (b) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 379, 395 and 294 establishments which participated in WOPS to engage persons with disabilities. In the above 3 years, the

average amounts of allowance granted by LD for each placement were \$13,593, \$15,776 and \$24,301 respectively.

- (c) A breakdown of the placements recorded under WOPS in 2018, 2019 and 2020 by occupation of persons with disabilities is at the Annex.
- (d) LD launched a pilot scheme in September 2020 to encourage, among others, persons with disabilities placed into employment under WOPS to undergo and complete on-the-job training through the provision of a retention allowance, thereby stabilising employment. As at February 2021, SPD had received 65 applications for retention allowance from persons with disabilities and approved a total of 50 cases. The average amount of retention allowance granted for each case was \$3,400.

**Breakdown of placements recorded under WOPS from 2018 to 2020
by occupation of persons with disabilities**

Occupation	No. of placements		
	2018	2019	2020
Managers and administrators	25	32	31
Professionals and associate professionals	41	53	30
Clerical support workers	225	340	224
Service workers	161	165	158
Shop sales workers	104	90	115
Craft and related workers	5	9	27
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	7	3	10
Elementary occupations	228	250	214
Total	796	942	809

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)013

(Question Serial No. 2096)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

In 2020, the Government launched an enhancement measure for the Employment Programme for the Elderly and Middle-aged (EPEM) in which employers may apply for an on-the-job training (OJT) allowance of up to \$5,000 per month for each eligible employee who has completed OJT under EPEM. Please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What was the number of participating establishments under EPEM provided by the Government in each of the past 3 years?
- (b) Please provide the number of participants in the above programme in each of the past 3 years by age group (40-49, 50-59, 60-69 and 70 or above).
- (c) What were the types of work and ranks of the elderly persons engaged under the above programme? Please set out the information in a table.
- (d) Please set out the total expenditure on OJT allowance granted to employers and on retention allowance granted to employees in each of the past 3 years, as well as the respective numbers of applicants.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) to (c) No prior registration under EPEM (known as the Employment Programme for the Middle-aged before September 2018) is required for employees as relevant registration can be made by their employers after they have secured employment from vacancies placed with the Labour Department (LD). In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 2 574, 3 061 and 2 260 placements eligible for joining EPEM, involving 961, 1 093 and 937 employers. Breakdowns by age and

occupation are provided at Annexes 1 and 2. LD does not keep a breakdown by rank.

- (d) LD actively invites employers of each placement case eligible for joining EPEM to apply for OJT allowance. However, some employers did not apply for the allowance due to various reasons, such as they chose to absorb the training costs by their own resources. The amount of OJT allowance granted under EPEM from 2018-19 to 2020-21 is provided at Annex 3.

LD launched a pilot scheme in September 2020 to provide a retention allowance to elderly persons engaged for 3 months or above under EPEM so as to encourage them to undergo and complete OJT, thereby stabilising employment. Figures on the amount of retention allowance are incomplete as the employees in the vast majority of cases have not yet been engaged for 3 months or have yet to submit their allowance applications as at the end of 2020.

Breakdown of placements eligible for joining EPEM from 2018 to 2020 by age

Age	No. of placements		
	2018	2019	2020
40-49	1 032	1 103	741
50-59	1 206	1 421	1 027
60-69	325	522	473
70 or above	11	15	19
Total	2 574	3 061	2 260

**Breakdown of placements eligible for joining EPEM from 2018 to 2020
by occupation**

Occupation	No. of placements		
	2018	2019	2020
Managers and administrators, professionals and associate professionals	161	231	210
Clerical support workers	493	580	404
Service workers and sales workers	844	873	570
Agricultural and fishery workers and craft and related workers	91	151	149
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	89	106	65
Elementary occupations	896	1 120	862
Total	2 574	3 061	2 260

**Amount of training allowance granted under EPEM
from 2018-19 to 2020-21**

Year	Amount (\$million)
2018-19	3.1
2019-20	6.5
2020-21 (up to February 2021)	8.0

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)014

(Question Serial No. 2097)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the regulation of job placement service in Hong Kong, please provide the following information:

- (a) In the past 3 years and since the Employment (Amendment) Ordinance 2018 came into effect, what were (i) the number of prosecutions taken out against breaches of the Ordinance, (ii) the number of employment agencies (EAs) involved and (iii) the details of the penalties? Please provide the information in table form.
- (b) The Labour Department (LD) stated that it would continue to step up enforcement and prosecution against unscrupulous EAs. Please provide information on the upcoming work, manpower and amount of expenditure involved.
- (c) What were the numbers of regular and surprise inspections to EAs providing placement service for foreign domestic helpers (FDHs) conducted in the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) The Employment (Amendment) Ordinance 2018 came into effect on 9 February 2018. The relevant figures on successful prosecutions taken out against EAs by LD from 2018 to 2020 are set out at Annex.
- (b) The Employment Agencies Administration (EAA) of LD will continue to ensure that EAs comply with Part XII of the Employment Ordinance, the Employment Agency Regulations and the requirements and standards set out in the Code of Practice for Employment Agencies (the Code) through licensing, inspections and complaint investigation. LD will take out prosecution if there is sufficient evidence to prove that

an EA has breached the law. If an EA has not complied with the Code, LD may revoke or refuse to issue or renew its licence, or issue warnings for rectification of the irregularities detected.

In 2021-22, EAA has a staff establishment of 26 Labour Officer Grade and 9 Clerical Grade posts responsible for performing licensing duties, conducting inspections of EAs and investigating complaints, as well as other related publicity and educational work, etc. The estimated expenditure (excluding staff cost) is \$7.55 million.

- (c) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, EAA conducted 1 533, 1 390 and 1 091 inspections respectively, covering both regular and surprise ones, to EAs providing placement service for FDHs.

**Relevant figures on prosecutions taken out against EAs
by LD from 2018 to 2020**

	2018	2019	2020
No. of summonses involved in successful prosecutions	17	37	11
No. of EAs involved	10	10	11
Average fine for offences of overcharging of commission from job seekers and unlicensed operation	\$11,000	\$45,333	\$17,933
Average fine for other offences*	\$2,200	\$2,500	\$2,200

- * Including operating EA at a place other than the place of business specified in the licence, failure to maintain proper records, failure to notify LD of changes in the management and place of business within the statutory timeframe, furnishing to the Commissioner for Labour any information which was known or reasonably ought to be known to be false or misleading in any material particular when submitting an application for renewal of licence, failure to display the licence or the schedule specifying the maximum commission which may be received from job seekers, etc.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)015

(Question Serial No. 2098)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the processing of applications under the Supplementary Labour Scheme (SLS), please provide the following information for the past 3 years:

- (a) What were the number of applications made by employers under SLS and the state of approvals for each year?
- (b) What industry sectors did the above approved cases come under?
- (c) How many of the above approved cases involved employment as care workers? What was their average approved work period in Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a)&(b) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, employers applied to import 5 095, 4 721 and 4 204 workers respectively under SLS. The numbers of imported workers approved respectively in these 3 years were 3 225, 3 378 and 3 123. The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year. A breakdown of the number of imported workers approved by industry is at Annex.
- (c) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the numbers of imported care workers approved under SLS were 1 478, 1 791 and 1 601 respectively. The employment contract of an imported worker under SLS is subject to a maximum span of 24 months. The Labour Department does not keep the average approved work period in Hong Kong for imported workers.

**Number of imported workers approved
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020:
a breakdown by industry**

Industry	No. of imported workers approved		
	2018	2019	2020
1. Agriculture and Fishing	705	797	780
2. Manufacturing	158	176	192
3. Construction	589	172	218
4. Wholesale, Retail and Import/Export Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	197	270	228
5. Transport, Storage and Communications	24	9	16
6. Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	19	28	18
7. Community, Social and Personal Services	1 533	1 926	1 671
Total	3 225	3 378	3 123

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)016

(Question Serial No. 2099)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the policy of the Labour Department (LD) to support ethnic minority (EM) job seekers:

- (a) What were the numbers of EMs registered with LD for employment services in the past 3 years? Please provide a breakdown by programme title, ethnicity of registered job seekers, and the number of job seekers placed into employment.
- (b) At present, interpretation services are introduced to EM job seekers at job centres/industry-based recruitment centres. What were the number of occasions on which such services were provided and the number of beneficiaries in the past 3 years?
- (c) The Employment Services Ambassador (ESA) Programme for EMs is currently implemented by LD. How many ambassadors have been recruited under this Programme and what is their distribution by ethnicity?
- (d) Please set out in table form the expenditure for each year since the implementation of the above programmes.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a)&(c) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 1 173, 1 231 and 1 504 EM job seekers registered with LD for employment services, with a breakdown by ethnicity provided at Annex 1.

In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the numbers of placements secured for EM job seekers through LD's employment referral service were 116, 132 and 91 respectively.

Job seekers may be placed into employment either through LD's referral service or by direct application to employers who advertise vacancies via LD. Currently, the vast majority of vacancies advertised through LD are open for direct application to employers by job seekers. Job seekers (including EMs) who are placed into employment through direct application are not required to report their employment status to LD. LD therefore does not have figures on the total number of EMs placed into employment.

LD has implemented the ESA Programme for EMs since September 2014, under which trainees of the Youth Employment and Training Programme who can communicate in EM languages are employed as ESAs at job centres, industry-based recruitment centres and job fairs to help EM job seekers make use of various job search facilities and services. In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 17, 22 and 20 trainees employed by LD. Since the implementation of the Programme, LD has employed 169 trainees, with a breakdown by ethnicity provided at Annex 2.

- (b) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, LD's job centres and industry-based recruitment centres introduced interpretation services to 3 014, 2 565 and 1 912 EM job seekers and, in light of their needs, arranged interpretation services on 21, 10 and 9 occasions respectively.
- (d) LD's expenditures for providing the on-the-job training (OJT) under the ESA Programme for EMs (including payments for the salary and benefits of ESAs for EMs, training allowance for trainees, expenditure for training programmes, etc.) in 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 are provided at Annex 3. The expenditures on other services as mentioned above have been absorbed within the recurrent operational expenses of LD and cannot be separately identified.

EM job seekers registered with LD from 2018 to 2020

Ethnicity	2018	2019	2020
Pakistani	488	506	477
Indian	217	236	298
Nepalese	173	114	237
Filipino	88	84	159
Indonesian	28	18	33
Thai	25	33	32
Others	154	240	268
Total	1 173	1 231	1 504

Trainees of LD's ESA Programme for EMs

Ethnicity	No. of trainees
Pakistani	131
Indian	17
Nepalese	13
Filipino	3
Thai	3
Indonesian	1
Others	1
Total	169

OJT expenditure for LD's ESA Programme for EMs

Year	OJT expenditure
2016-17	\$1.55 million
2017-18	\$1.91 million
2018-19	\$1.05 million
2019-20	\$2.10 million
2020-21	\$1.92 million (Revised estimate)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)017

(Question Serial No. 2100)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Labour Relations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the registration of new trade unions:

- (a) Please set out the respective numbers of existing and newly registered trade unions in the past 3 years.
- (b) Please set out in table form the names of trade unions newly registered in the past year and their affiliated organisations.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) The numbers of registered trade unions and trade unions newly registered under the Trade Unions Ordinance from 2018 to 2020 are set out at Annex 1.
- (b) The names of trade unions newly registered in 2020 and their affiliated labour organisations are set out at Annex 2.

**Numbers of registered trade unions and trade unions newly registered
from 2018 to 2020**

Year	Number of registered trade unions [#] (as at year-end)	Number of trade unions newly registered in the year
2018	897	13
2019	917	25
2020	1 410	495

The number of registered trade unions includes the number of trade unions newly registered in the year.

**Names of trade unions newly registered in 2020
and their affiliated labour organisations**

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
1.	Newly-arrived Students Teachers' Association	-
2.	Government Non-Civil Service Staff General Union	Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions
3.	Hong Kong Public Relations and Communications Professional Union	-
4.	Hong Kong Association of Bakery and Coffee Practitioners	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
5.	General Union of High Voltage Professionals	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
6.	Non-Chinese Speaking Students Teachers' Association	-
7.	Hong Kong Fire, Ambulance and Control Staff's Union	-
8.	Maritime Transport Services Industry Trade Union	-
9.	Hong Kong Trade Unions Employees Association	-
10.	Hong Kong Trading, Merchandising and Purchasing Employees Union	-
11.	I.T. Hipster Association	-
12.	Hong Kong Electronics Technology Professionals' Union	Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions
13.	Senior Administrative And Management Executives Union	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
14.	Hong Kong Educators Alliance	-
15.	HKSAR Government Disciplined Services Staff Association	-
16.	Clerical Professionals and Administrative Assistants Association	-
17.	Hong Kong Tourism Industry Innovation General Union	Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions
18.	Association of Professional Pest Control Practitioner	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
19.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Mobile Machinery Operator and Maintenance Employees Union	-
20.	Hong Kong Writers Union	-
21.	Hong Kong Professional Engineers Association	-
22.	Hong Kong Construction Site Asbestos Removal Employees Union	-
23.	Accounting Bro'Sis Labour Union	-
24.	H&M Hong Kong Staff Union	-
25.	Hong Kong Human Resources Employees Union	-
26.	The Union of Hong Kong Occupational Therapists	-
27.	HKSAR GOVERNMENT NEW TERMS CIVIL SERVANTS ASSOCIATION	-
28.	The CUHK Faculty of Medicine Research Personnel Union	-
29.	Hong Kong Construction Site Miscellaneous Workers Union	-
30.	Hong Kong Style Tea Restaurant Employees General Union	-
31.	Hong Kong Event Professionals Union	-
32.	The Association of Clerical Employees in Logistics Industry	-
33.	The Hong Kong General Union of Physiotherapists	-
34.	Hong Kong Aviation Staff Alliance	Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions
35.	Hong Kong Construction Site Cement Sand Mortar Workers Union	-
36.	Union of the Hong Kong Professional Optometrists	-
37.	Hong Kong Union of Designers	-
38.	Hong Kong Marketing & Sales Professionals Union	-
39.	Union of United Domestic Workers	-
40.	Hong Kong Construction Site Polished Finish (Cement) Employees Union	-
41.	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service Staff Union	-
42.	Hong Kong Building Demolition Workers Union	-
43.	Hong Kong Tour Bus Drivers Union	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
44.	Hong Kong Theatre Arts Practitioners Union	-
45.	Hong Kong Franchised Buses Part Time Employees' Union	-
46.	Hong Kong Design Individuals Union	-
47.	Hong Kong Construction Site Concrete Pump Truck Operators Union	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
48.	Hong Kong Construction Site Bar Bending Friendship Union	-
49.	Hong Kong Pet Industry Union	-
50.	Association of Hong Kong Medical and Health Care Staff	-
51.	Hong Kong Construction Site Concreters Union	-
52.	YMCAHK Staff Association	-
53.	Lady MacLehose Centre Trade Union	-
54.	Hong Kong Construction Site General Welding Union	-
55.	Hong Kong Manufacturing Industry Union Employees Association	-
56.	Practising Pharmacists Alliance	-
57.	Hong Kong Construction Site Machinery Operations and Metal Maintenance Union	-
58.	Hong Kong Construction Site Tilers Union	-
59.	Marine Navigation Professionals Association	-
60.	Cross Border Financial Professionals General Union	-
61.	Small and Medium Child Welfare Organisation Labour Union	-
62.	Occupational Therapy Practitioner Alliance	-
63.	Shatin Researchers Association	-
64.	Post-natal Care Services Workers Association	-
65.	Hong Kong Facilities Management Professional Employees Association	-
66.	New Territories West Construction Industry Employees Union	-
67.	Human Resources Professional Practitioners Association	-
68.	Hong Kong Non-profit Organisation Employees Association	-
69.	New Teachers Alliance	-
70.	Association of Manufacturing Industry Employees	-
71.	Hong Kong Early Childhood Educators' Union	-
72.	CitizenNews Staff Union	-
73.	Hong Kong Chinese Medicine Professionals Association	-
74.	Hong Kong Air-conditioning Engineering Professional Employees Association	-
75.	Environmental Education and Ecological Conservation Workers' Union	-
76.	Hong Kong Union of Actuaries and Actuarial Professionals	-
77.	KMB Frontline Drivers General Union	-
78.	Cement Sand Mortar Workers' Alliance	-
79.	Hong Kong Financial Services Technology Employees Association	-
80.	Hong Kong Professional Management Consulting Service Employees Association	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
81.	Hong Kong Real Estate Agents Rights and Benefit General Union	Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions
82.	Hong Kong Airport Cleaning Services Employees General Union	-
83.	HKSAR Government Technical Inspectorates and Works Supervisors Association	-
84.	The Association of Hong Kong Logistics & Freight Forwarding Professionals	-
85.	Actuarial Science Practitioners Union	-
86.	Building Materials Employees Union	-
87.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Executives Association	-
88.	Hong Kong Long Win Workers General Union	-
89.	Hong Kong Civil Servants Association 2000+	-
90.	Hong Kong Catering and Service Staff Association	-
91.	New World First Bus Workers Mutual Aid General Union	-
92.	Hong Kong Steel Bending Workers Association	-
93.	Hong Kong Vessels Engine Operators Union	-
94.	KOL Workers Association	-
95.	Beverage Sales and Practitioners Association	-
96.	Medicine and Cosmetics Retail Workers General Union	-
97.	Hong Kong Cross Boundary Coach Workers Union	-
98.	Hong Kong Retail Frontline Union	-
99.	Hongkong Healthcare Professionals' Association	-
100.	Association of Formwork Employees of Hong Kong Construction Industry	-
101.	Hong Kong Society of Medical Imaging Technologists	-
102.	Transportation Industry Clerical Staff Union	-
103.	Hong Kong Marine Infrastructure Industry Employees Union	-
104.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Purchasing Staff Union	-
105.	Hong Kong Textile Practitioners Association	-
106.	Retail Frontline Synergy Union	-
107.	Hong Kong Water Electric Industry Workers Association	-
108.	Educational Psychologists Union	-
109.	Hong Kong Household Services Employees Union	-
110.	Accounting and Finance Employees Solidarity Union	-
111.	Hong Kong Style Tea Restaurant Noodle Bar Employees Union	-
112.	Association of Miscellaneous Cleaners of Hong Kong Construction Industry	-
113.	Iron and Steel Industry Employees General Union	-
114.	Power Industry Executives Professional and Administrative Assistants Association	-
115.	Practitioner Association of Rainbow Social Service	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
116.	Hong Kong Information Technology & Communications Industry Employees Association	-
117.	Hospital Authority New Territories West Cluster Staff Association	-
118.	Hong Kong Ship Industry Employees Union	-
119.	Railway Industry Employees Union	-
120.	The Union of Social Service for the People	-
121.	Financial Administrative and Clerical Staff Union	-
122.	Association of Miscellaneous Employees of Hong Kong Construction Industry	-
123.	Marine Engineering Professionals Association	-
124.	Actuarial Practitioners Continuing Professional Development Association	-
125.	Construction Safety Supervision Staff Union	-
126.	Business Services Employees Union	-
127.	Office Assistants Employees Union	-
128.	Hong Kong Construction Site Plasterers Union	-
129.	Internal Controls and Compliance Professionals Association	-
130.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Transport Workers' Union	-
131.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Project Management Staff Union	-
132.	Service Industry Secretary Professionals Association	-
133.	Hong Kong Construction Site Management and Administrative Workers Union	-
134.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Occupational Safety Workers Union	-
135.	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Workers Trade Union	-
136.	Hong Kong Construction Site Erecting Formwork Workers Association	-
137.	Association of Escort Service Staffs	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
138.	Pulp and Paper Trade Employees Association	-
139.	Old District Redevelopment Workers Union	-
140.	Association of Construction Site Foremen	-
141.	China-Hong Kong Cultural Exchange Employees Union	-
142.	Hong Kong Bricklayers Union	-
143.	Marketing Sales and Corporate Image Promotion Union	-
144.	Hong Kong Construction Rebar Fixing Detailing Artisan Union	-
145.	HK Inspection and Testing Alliance	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
146.	Tourism Administrators Association	-
147.	Hong Kong Union of Godown, Wharf and Air Freight Workers	-
148.	Hong Kong Electrician Union	-
149.	Renovation Miscellaneous Workers Union	-
150.	Food Import-Export Industry Workers Union	-
151.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Painters Union	-
152.	Hong Kong Fresh & Frozen Food Industry Workers Union	-
153.	Hong Kong Automation Equipment Employees Association	-
154.	Hong Kong Financial Industry Administrators Union	-
155.	Hong Kong Construction Rebar Fixing Artisans Union	-
156.	Hong Kong Office Administrative Staff General Union	-
157.	Hong Kong Citybus Workers General Union	-
158.	Government Engineering Staff General Union	-
159.	Toy Manufacturing Employees Union	-
160.	Hong Kong Construction Site Formwork Carpenters Union	-
161.	The Institute of Surveying and Mapping Technicians in Sha Tin	-
162.	Hong Kong Textile Trade Employees General Union	-
163.	Hong Kong Financial Industry Clerical Professionals Association	-
164.	Hong Kong Social Service Employees Association	-
165.	M Plus Museum Staff Union	-
166.	Government Contract Staff Union	-
167.	Construction Industry Management Staff Association	-
168.	Hong Kong Security Guards and Security Systems Staff General Union	-
169.	Business and Personal Services Part-time Employees Union	-
170.	Aviation IT Workers Union	-
171.	Real Estate Management and Clerical Staff Union	-
172.	Oil and Foodstuffs Employees General Union	-
173.	Hong Kong Councillor Assistants Frontline	-
174.	Private Healthcare Professionals Association	-
175.	Hong Kong Printing Standardization Employees Association	-
176.	Money Laundering Reporting Officers General Union	-
177.	Hong Kong Civil Works Concreters Union	-
178.	Corporate Compliance Officers General Union	-
179.	Hong Kong Construction Site Bricklaying Workers Union	-
180.	Hong Kong Construction Site Floor Screeding Workers Union	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
181.	Academy Facilities Management and Maintenance Practitioners Association	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
182.	Association of Tiler and Bricklayer of Hong Kong	-
183.	Association of Security and Guarding Services Employees	-
184.	Automobile Industry Clerical and Managerial Staff Union	-
185.	Hong Kong Construction Site Ceramic Tilers Union	-
186.	Union of Hong Kong Driving Instructors	-
187.	Hong Kong Construction Site Bar Fixers Union	-
188.	Hong Kong Style Tea Restaurant Beverage Staff Union	-
189.	Hong Kong High Performance Computing Practitioners Union	-
190.	Association of Construction Industry Supervisory and Clerical Staff	-
191.	Hong Kong Floor Tile Workers Union	-
192.	Hong Kong Aluminium Window Installation Workers Union	-
193.	Wealth Management and Financial Planning Employees Union	-
194.	Construction Site Engineering Management Employees Union	-
195.	Hong Kong Testing, Inspection and Certification Professional Employees General Union	-
196.	Fortune Harbour Catering Association	-
197.	Import and Export Trade Employees of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Union	-
198.	Hong Kong Information Technology and Communications Executives Union	-
199.	Aerospace Technology Staff Union	-
200.	Building Security And Guarding Service Employees General Union	-
201.	General Insurance Staff Association	-
202.	Hong Kong Marine Staff Association	-
203.	Hong Kong Veterinary Industry Workers Union	-
204.	Hong Kong And Kowloon Cargo Transport Workers Union	-
205.	The Association of Patent Agency Practitioners	-
206.	Legal Staff Union	-
207.	Telecommunications and Information Technology Industry Employees General Union	-
208.	Hong Kong Gold Mining Labour Union	-
209.	Hong Kong Construction Site Concrete Repairers Union	-
210.	Hong Kong Railway Technicians Association	-
211.	Hong Kong Style Tea Restaurant Waiters Union	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
212.	Trade Union of Practitioners of Solar Power Generation	-
213.	Hong Kong Film Buyers' Association	-
214.	Hong Kong Petroleum and Petrochemical Corporations Clerical, Secretarial and General Staff Union	-
215.	Construction Employees Alliance	-
216.	Shatin Inhabitants Association Social Service Union	-
217.	The Hong Kong China Affiliated Enterprises Human Resources Union	-
218.	Hong Kong Petroleum and Petrochemical Corporations Industrial Finance Employees Union	-
219.	Association of Site Machinery Workers	-
220.	Financial Service Employees Union	-
221.	Hong Kong and Kowloon Tourism Workers Union	-
222.	Tai Po Community Services Employees Union	-
223.	Innovation Technology and E-commerce Employees Union	-
224.	Hong Kong Psychotherapy and Counselling Practitioners Union	-
225.	Financial Industry Managerial Staff Association	-
226.	Hong Kong Information and Communications Technology Staff Union	-
227.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Metal Scaffolding Union	-
228.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Rigger Workers Association	-
229.	Information Technology and Artificial Intelligence Professionals Association	-
230.	Tsim Sha Tsui Clerical and Administrative Staff Union	-
231.	Hong Kong and Kowloon Natural Resources and Energy Industry Workers General Union	-
232.	High-speed Waterway Passenger Transportation Staff Union	-
233.	Hong Kong Technology Innovation Education Professional Association	-
234.	Hong Kong Chinese Medicine Manufacturing Employees Union	-
235.	Hong Kong Frozen Meat Food Employees Association	-
236.	Energy and Environmental Protection Industries Clerical and Professional Employees Association	-
237.	Hong Kong Alternations and Additions Works Professionals Association	-
238.	Hong Kong Waiters and Waitresses Alliance	-
239.	Hong Kong Clerical and Administrative Employees Union	-
240.	Hong Kong Film Distributors Staff Guild	-
241.	Hong Kong Dance Professionals Association	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
242.	General Union of Foreign Exchange Traders	-
243.	Backup Power Industry Practitioners Association	-
244.	Hong Kong Green Recycling Practitioners Union	-
245.	Wanchai Energy Industry Employees Union	-
246.	The Association of Trademark Agent Practitioners	-
247.	Community Worker Employees Union (New Territories East)	-
248.	Tourism Industry Staff Alliance	-
249.	Financial Industry Staff Association	-
250.	Kowloon Educational Staff Association	-
251.	Hong Kong Hotel Industry Employees Union	-
252.	Hong Kong Vocational Training (Construction Industry) Employees Association	-
253.	Construction Industry Association for Chinese & Non-Chinese in Hong Kong	-
254.	Hong Kong and Kowloon Security & Inspection Association	-
255.	Clerical Employees Association for Chinese & Non-Chinese in Hong Kong	-
256.	Cosmetic Formulators and Skincare Industry Employees Trade Union	-
257.	Hong Kong Island Chinese Language Teachers Union	-
258.	Hong Kong Chinese & Non-Chinese Security Guards Association	-
259.	Traditional Chinese Medicine Industry Employees Mutual Aid Union	-
260.	Environmental Protection and Construction Engineering Association	-
261.	Construction, Engineering, Environmental Protection and Recycling Employees Union	-
262.	Purchasing, Logistics and Supply Chain Management Staff Association	-
263.	Mould and Plastic Injection and Administrative Assistants Staff Association	-
264.	Union of Hong Kong Tobacco Industry Employees	-
265.	Association of Hong Kong Island Liberal Studies Teaching staff	-
266.	Insurance Industry Workers Association	-
267.	Yuen Long Catering Services and Professionals Association	-
268.	Hong Kong Electricity Frontiers	-
269.	Association of Hong Kong Island Humanities Teachers	-
270.	Clean Energy Industry Workers Union	-
271.	Ferry Staff Association	-
272.	Shipping Management Staff Association	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
273.	Hong Kong Airport Maintenance Staff Union	-
274.	Warehouse and Transshipment Cargo Staff Union	-
275.	Hong Kong NGO Employees Association	-
276.	Union of Clerical Staff	-
277.	Recycling Workers Association	-
278.	Community Service Workers Solidarity Union	-
279.	Information Technology Industry Staff Alliance	-
280.	Hong Kong Island School Clerical Employees Union	-
281.	Association of Secretaries	-
282.	Satellite Communication Services Staff Union	-
283.	Hunan Cuisine Catering Establishment Staff Association	-
284.	Hunanese Restaurant Employees Union	-
285.	Finance and Information Technology Industry Staff Association	-
286.	SE Global Functions HK Employees Association	-
287.	Information Technology and Trade Employees Association	-
288.	IT Teachers' Union	-
289.	Community Service Clerical Union	-
290.	Public Light Buses Staff Union	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
291.	Hong Kong China Clerical Staff Union	-
292.	Hong Kong Legal Practitioners Alliance	-
293.	Union of Clerical Staff (Hung Hom)	-
294.	Hong Kong Customer Service Employees Union	-
295.	Hong Kong Marine Bunkering Services Staff Union	-
296.	Hong Kong Chinese Opera Musicians Association	-
297.	STEM Education Teaching Staff Association	-
298.	Apron Air Freight Services Employees Union	-
299.	Financial Services Industry Middle and Back Office Workers Union	-
300.	United Lawyers Association	-
301.	Finance and Accounting Industry Staff Union	-
302.	Hong Kong Legal Workers Union	-
303.	Carol Gloves Manufacturing Limited Staff Union	-
304.	Food Manufacturing and Processing Industry Employees Union	-
305.	Union of Financial and Information Technology Advisory Staff	-
306.	Association of Construction Industry Staff	-
307.	Clerical, Finance and Administrative Support Staff Association	-
308.	Hong Kong Education Executives Association	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
309.	Union of Logistics and Warehouse Employees	-
310.	Recreation and Sports Services Employees Union	-
311.	Hong Kong Company Secretarial Professionals Association	-
312.	Hong Kong Futures Market Analysis and Securities Industry Staff General Union	-
313.	Financial Technology Professional Services Personnel Union	-
314.	Union of Hong Kong Sports Staff	-
315.	Administrative and Clerical Employees Association	-
316.	Customer Services and Clerical Staff Association	-
317.	Union of Hong Kong Executive and Secretarial Staff	-
318.	Staff Rights Union of Cleaning Services	-
319.	New Territories East Construction Industry Employees Union	-
320.	Information Technology Industry Alliance	-
321.	Hong Kong Mandarin Teachers Association	-
322.	China Sunshine Aviation Staff Hong Kong Union	-
323.	Hong Kong Enterprise Security Staff Association	-
324.	Association of Hong Kong Insurance Staff	-
325.	Electronics Plastic Employees Association	-
326.	Staff Union of Hong Kong Insurance Industry	-
327.	Hong Kong FinTech and Innovation Professionals Association	-
328.	Hong Kong In-house Counsel Association	-
329.	Association of Lift and Escalator Staff	-
330.	Union of Child Care Workers	-
331.	Tourism Industry Friendship Union	-
332.	Economic Services Professionals Union	-
333.	Construction Workers Association	-
334.	Councillor Assistants Union	-
335.	Hong Kong Clerical and Management Staff Association	-
336.	Hong Kong Finance Professionals Sustainable Development Association	-
337.	Union of Secretarial and Clerical Employees	-
338.	Association of Textile Industry Staff	-
339.	Hong Kong Environmental Industry Management Staff Association	-
340.	Hong Kong Engineering and Consulting (Small Potatoes) Staff Union	-
341.	Kowloon Clerical Employees Alliance	-
342.	Tourism Industry Employees Mutual Aid Union	-
343.	The Association of Pastoral Workers for Catholic Schools	-
344.	Electrical Appliances Retail Industry Staff Connect Union	-
345.	Exhibition Industry Marketing Staff Association	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
346.	Kwai Tsing Community Practitioners Union	-
347.	The Association of Hong Kong Private and International Schools Technicians	-
348.	Hong Kong Freelancer Service Union	Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions
349.	The Employees Association of The Hongkong Post	-
350.	Hong Kong Health Care Staff Union	-
351.	Hong Kong Managerial Staff General Union	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
352.	Financial Services and Information Technology Staff Union	-
353.	Hong Kong Fresh Meat Industry Workers Union	-
354.	Hong Kong Community Service Employees Association	-
355.	Hong Kong Film Publicists Union	-
356.	Hong Kong Private Practice Prosthetists and Orthotists General Union	-
357.	Information and Communications Technology Industry Professionals Association	-
358.	Manual Therapy, Tui-na and Massage Tutors Union	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
359.	Hong Kong Corporate and Finance Legal Practitioners Union	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
360.	Innovative Education Teachers Association	-
361.	Southern District Community Service Employees Union	-
362.	Association of Swimming Coaches	-
363.	Clerical and Administrative Workers Association	-
364.	Hong Kong Medical Service Employees Union	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
365.	Hong Kong Insurance Industry Staff Association	-
366.	Hong Kong Wholesale Banking Staff Union	-
367.	E-commerce and Information Technology Practitioners Union	-
368.	Hong Kong Financial Services Professionals General Union	-
369.	Pan-Ocean Ship Trading and Marine Industries Workers Union	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
370.	The Kwong Wah Hospital Radiologists' Association	-
371.	Association of Elderly Service Social Workers	-
372.	Financial Industry Legal Compliance and Risk Officers' Association	-
373.	Hong Kong Experienced Lawyers Alliance	-
374.	Association of Innovative Finance and Information Technology Professionals	-
375.	Hong Kong Social Welfare & Community Service Workers Association	-
376.	Financial Industry Personnel Alliance	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
377.	Corporate Management Staff Union	-
378.	Hong Kong Legal and Compliance Services Employees Association	-
379.	Hong Kong Union of Food Hygiene Instructors	-
380.	Association of Public Light Buses Employees	-
381.	Board Secretary and Company Secretary Industry Staff Union	-
382.	Union of Professional Community Service Coordinators	-
383.	Manufacturing And Import And Export Practitioners Mutual Aid Association	-
384.	Tourism and Study Tour Staff Union	-
385.	Civil Servants Alliance	-
386.	Real Estate Staff Alliance	-
387.	Hong Kong Business Promotion and Management Employees Association	-
388.	Hong Kong Clerical Work and Administration Personnel Union	-
389.	Hong Kong and Kowloon Accounting and Clerical Staff Association	-
390.	Engineering and Maintenance Workers Association	-
391.	Financial Employees Association	-
392.	In-house Legal Practitioners Union	-
393.	Hong Kong Publishers Staff Union	-
394.	Information Technology and Communications Professionals Union	-
395.	Security and Guarding Industries Staff Union	-
396.	General Union of Senior Postal Officers of Hongkong Post	-
397.	Fibre Network Engineering Employees Union	-
398.	Hong Kong Christian Organization Staff Association	-
399.	Hong Kong Business Enterprise Management and Executives Association	-
400.	Hong Kong Legal Advisors General Union	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
401.	Hong Kong Property Agents And Construction Industry Employees General Union	-
402.	Hong Kong Real Estate Clerical Employees Association	-
403.	Hong Kong Sanitary Services Staff Union	-
404.	Association of Pop Music Tutors and Performers	-
405.	Ship Repair Workers Union	-
406.	Hong Kong Futian Clerical and Administrative Staff Association	-
407.	Staff Union of Hong Kong Air-conditioning System	-
408.	Hong Kong Consumer Goods Industry Staff Union	-
409.	Public Light Bus Drivers Union	-
410.	Hong Kong Smart Hotels Staff Union	-
411.	Hong Kong Music Industry Practitioners Union	Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions
412.	Hong Kong Security Industry Staff Association	-
413.	Southern District Community Service Workers Association	-
414.	Union of Hong Kong Construction Workers	-
415.	Hong Kong Financial Industry Practitioners Union	-
416.	Hong Kong Cultural and Creative Industries Association	-
417.	Staff Union of Hong Kong Federation of Fujian Associations	-
418.	Business Development, Publicity and Corporate Communication Staff Union	-
419.	Administrative and Clerical Staff General Union	-
420.	Union of Building Services and Solar Power Generation Employees	-
421.	New Territories East Nursing Staff Union	-
422.	Commercial Organisation Management Staff Union	-
423.	Community Service Practitioners Union	-
424.	Association of Renovation Workers	-
425.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Managers and Foremen Union	-
426.	Hong Kong Christian Service Staff Union	-
427.	Property Management Staff Alliance	-
428.	Hong Kong Cleaning Workers Rights Union	-
429.	Yau Ma Tei Fruits Wholesale Practitioners Union	-
430.	Security Personnel Union	-
431.	Hong Kong Administrative and Clerical Employees Alliance	-
432.	Kowloon Central Cluster Physiotherapists Association	-
433.	PUBLIC POLICY AND POLITICS PROFESSIONALS UNION	-
434.	Hong Kong Rehabilitation Therapy Staff Union	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
435.	Hong Kong Patient Services Assistants Union	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions
436.	Chinese Music and Culture Artists Association	-
437.	Entertainment and Culture Production Employees Association	-
438.	Hong Kong Streaming Media Technology Workers Union	-
439.	Hong Kong Clerical, Administrative and Executive Employees Union	-
440.	Clerical and Sales Personnel Union	-
441.	Hong Kong Construction and Engineering Personnel Association	-
442.	Hong Kong Real Estate Agents Association	-
443.	Hong Kong Vehicle Detailing and Repairs Staff Union	-
444.	Hong Kong Footwear Design and Manufacturing Industry Employees Union	-
445.	Air-conditioning Engineering and Maintenance Association	-
446.	Civil Works Practitioners Union	-
447.	HKSAR Government Auxiliary Force Drivers Union	-
448.	Chinese Medicine Physiotherapist Association	-
449.	Medical and Healthcare Services Staff Union	-
450.	Cleaning Services Practitioners Union	-
451.	Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service Senior Citizen Service Division (East Kowloon) Staff Association	-
452.	Technology Innovation and Creative Industries Staff Association	-
453.	Hong Kong Services Industry Employees Solidarity Union	-
454.	Micro-Enterprises Retail Employees Association	-
455.	Hong Kong Clerical and Administrative Staff Alliance	-
456.	Community Service Staff Association	-
457.	Union of Security Employees	-
458.	Social Dance Instructors Association	-
459.	Electrical Practitioners Association	-
460.	Community Service Administrative and Clerical Staff Association	-
461.	Tai Kok Tsui Community Services Employees Association	-
462.	Hong Kong Environmental and Sustainable Development Practitioners Union	-
463.	Construction Industry Employees Solidarity Union	-
464.	Climbing Arborists Staff Union	-
465.	Green Tree Ring Staff Trade Union	-
466.	Arboricultural Part Time Employees Union	-
467.	Hong Kong Private Medical Clinic Employees Union	-

	Name of trade union*	Affiliated labour organisation^ (as at year-end)
468.	Tree Risk Assessment Staff Union	-
469.	Hong Kong Social Workers Alliance	-
470.	Hong Kong Housekeeping Employees Association	-
471.	Hong Kong Retail Industry Staff General Union	-
472.	Hong Kong Catering Industry Employees Union	-
473.	Hong Kong Medical Industry Staff Association	-
474.	Hong Kong Renovation Practitioners Union	-
475.	Hong Kong Clerical Personnel and Secretary Association	-
476.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Concrete Workers Association	-
477.	Construction Industry and Building Services Workers Union	-
478.	Hong Kong Secretaries and Administrators Association	-
479.	Physiotherapy Professionals Alliance	-
480.	Tile Decoration Practitioners Union	-
481.	Shotcretors Association	-
482.	Hong Kong Security Management Services Personnel Union	-
483.	Security and Escort Services Personnel Union	-
484.	Construction Industry Plastering Workers Association	-
485.	Hong Kong Libraries Cleaning Workers Association	-
486.	United Alliance of Allied Health Professionals	-
487.	Construction Professionals and Instructors Solidarity Union	-
488.	XCEPT Employees Association	-
489.	Hong Kong Translation Practitioners Association	-
490.	Construction Industry Levelling Employees Union	-
491.	Union of Chinese Medicine Practitioners	-
492.	Construction Workers Rights General Union	-
493.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Earthwork Workers Union	-
494.	Association of Hong Kong Executive and Management Staff	-
495.	Waste Reduction and Recycling Education Practitioners Union	-

* Listed in the order of date of registration of trade unions.

^ Information provided by the relevant labour organisations.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)018

(Question Serial No. 2101)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP) of the Labour Department (LD) provides one-stop pre-employment training and on-the-job training (OJT) for young school leavers aged 15 to 24 with educational attainment at sub-degree level or below.

- (a) Please set out in separate tables (i) the age of participants enrolled in the above programme and (ii) a breakdown of programme participants by nature of occupation in the past year and to date.
- (b) Currently, an employer will be granted an allowance for each young person placed into an OJT vacancy. Please set out in table form (i) the number of participating employers and (ii) the amounts involved in the past year and to date.
- (c) The Government has been providing a retention allowance to eligible trainees engaged by employers under YETP since September 2020. What are the respective situations of the participating employers and trainees? Apart from the retention allowance, does the Government have other programmes to provide young school leavers with opportunities to attend pre-employment training and OJT?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) YETP operates on the basis of programme year, running from September each year to August of the following year. Breakdowns of the numbers of trainees enrolled in YETP by age and trainees placed into OJT vacancies by occupational group in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 programme years (up to February 2021) are at Annex 1.

- (b) The number of employers who have engaged trainees for OJT and the amount of OJT allowance granted in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years (up to February 2021) are at Annex 2.
- (c) LD launched a pilot scheme in September 2020 to provide a retention allowance to trainees engaged by employers under YETP so as to encourage them to undergo and complete OJT, thereby stabilising employment. As at February 2021, a total of 54 applications for retention allowance were received from the participating trainees, involving 36 employers.

A training allowance of \$70 per day is granted to eligible trainees under YETP to encourage them to participate in pre-employment training. The amount of workplace attachment training allowance granted to trainees under YETP has also been raised from \$4,500 to \$5,800 since January 2020 so as to encourage more trainees to participate in workplace attachment training. In addition, since September 2020, the maximum amount of OJT allowance granted to employers under YETP has been increased from \$4,000 to \$5,000 per month (for a period of 6 to 12 months) to further encourage employers to hire young people and provide them with OJT. In the 2020/21 programme year, YETP continues to implement Career Kick-start to offer 12-month OJT to young people with special employment difficulties (including those who need special assistance because of low educational attainment, emotional or behavioural problems, learning difficulties and prolonged unemployment, etc) through placements in non-governmental organisations so as to enhance their employability. The eligibility criteria of prolonged unemployment have been relaxed in the new phase of Career Kick-start to allow more young people in need to take part in the employment project.

**Breakdowns of the numbers of trainees enrolled by age and
trainees placed into OJT vacancies by occupational group
in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 programme years of YETP**

(i) By age

Age	2019/20 Programme year	2020/21 Programme year (up to February 2021)
15-below 18	413	287
18-below 21	1 361	689
21-below 25	1 644	954
Total	3 418	1 930

(ii) By occupational group

Occupational group	No. of trainees placed into OJT vacancies	
	2019/20 Programme year	2020/21 Programme year (up to February 2021)
Craft and related workers	998	816
Associate professionals	126	106
Clerical support workers	148	88
Sales workers	64	66
Service workers	91	41
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	2	4
Elementary occupations	1	2
Others	5	12
Total	1 435	1 135

Note: YETP operates on the basis of programme year, running from September each year to August of the following year.

**Number of employers who have engaged trainees for OJT and
amount of OJT allowance granted
in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years**

Item	2019-20	2020-21 (up to February 2021)
No. of employers involved	499	471
OJT allowance	\$54.85 million	\$45.21 million

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)019

(Question Serial No. 2102)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

In September last year, the Government set up a dedicated Foreign Domestic Helpers (FDH) Division to ensure effective co-ordination and implementation of measures to enhance protection of FDHs and to provide better support to FDHs and their employers. Please provide the following information:

- (a) What is the existing manpower and government expenditure involved for the dedicated FDH Division?
- (b) What are the specific tasks of the dedicated FDH Division following its setting up? Please set out the tasks in detail.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) In 2021-22, the establishment of the FDH Division of the Labour Department (LD) comprises 15 Labour Officer Grade and 2 Clerical Grade posts. The estimated expenditure (excluding staff cost) of the FDH Division is \$13.43 million.
- (b) LD enhances FDHs' understanding of their rights and benefits under the Employment Ordinance and the Standard Employment Contract through a series of publicity and educational work. LD produces practical guides, promotional leaflets and posters in a number of FDHs' mother languages, and widely distributes relevant publications to FDHs at the airport through a non-governmental organisation, the consulates-general of FDHs' home countries in Hong Kong and offices of various government departments. Moreover, LD provides relevant information through staging roving exhibitions, placing advertisements in local Indonesian and Filipino newspapers usually read by FDHs, broadcasting television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest, etc. Apart

from employment rights and benefits, LD has added to its promotional messages such information as channels for seeking assistance, and widely distributes information cards to FDHs with points to note while working in Hong Kong. LD's dedicated FDH Portal, with 12 language versions available, facilitates FDHs' understanding of their entitlements before coming to work in Hong Kong. In addition, LD works closely with the consulates-general of major FDHs' home countries in Hong Kong, and has established a regular liaison mechanism for information sharing and co-ordination of related publicity and educational activities. As for employers, LD published a guide for FDH employers to explain their obligations and rights as employers, and a newsletter to introduce LD's services and support channels.

With the setting up of the FDH Division, LD will enhance the promotion and education among FDHs and their employers, including staging more information kiosks at popular gathering places of FDHs on rest days when the pandemic is over, producing more publicity materials and short videos, etc., to help both parties gain a deeper understanding of their respective rights and obligations, thereby improving mutual communication and maintaining cordial employment relationships. LD will also hold more seminars and briefings for FDHs and employers, and plans to organise other exchange activities, such as sharing sessions, to answer enquiries of FDHs and employers on the spot. Besides, LD will support the implementation of FDH policy measures, including strengthening liaison with relevant consulates-general in Hong Kong and law enforcement agencies to ensure the provision of timely assistance to FDHs and employers in need; and exploring the importation of domestic helpers from more countries, etc.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)020

(Question Serial No. 2103)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

With respect to the productivity assessment mechanism for persons with disabilities under the Minimum Wage Ordinance (MWO), please provide the following information:

- (a) What was the number of persons with disabilities undergoing the productivity assessment in the past 3 years and to date? Please set out in table form by type of disabilities.
- (b) The productivity assessment for employees with disabilities must be conducted by the approved assessors appointed by the Commissioner for Labour. What is the current number of approved assessors? What are the time required and average cost for each assessment case?
- (c) It is noted that enhancement measures were launched by the Labour Department (LD) after 2014. Are there any actual impacts on the assessors and the work of persons with disabilities after the launch of the enhancement measures? If yes, please give a detailed account of the impacts.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) A breakdown of the number of employees with disabilities who completed the productivity assessment under the Statutory Minimum Wage (SMW) regime from 2018 to February 2021 by type of disabilities is at Annex.
- (b) As at the end of February 2021, a total of 267 approved assessors could conduct productivity assessments for employees with disabilities under MWO. Starting from 1 May 2020, an allowance of \$2,800 is made by LD to an approved assessor upon the

completion of a productivity assessment and the related follow-up work. LD does not keep the time taken by approved assessors to process each assessment.

- (c) In 2014, LD launched enhancement measures in respect of the productivity assessment mechanism for employees with disabilities, including enhancing the assistance to employees with disabilities on the procedure for opting to undergo assessment, improving the quality of approved assessors in conducting assessment and strengthening communication among employees with disabilities, employers and approved assessors. After the launch of the above enhancement measures, employees with disabilities who completed the productivity assessments and their employers were in general satisfied with the arrangement and result of the assessments.

In 2020, LD launched 2 enhancement measures in respect of the assessment mechanism, including raising the allowance made to an approved assessor from \$2,000 to \$2,800 upon the completion of a productivity assessment starting from 1 May 2020, and allowing approved assessors who are eligible for applying for re-appointment to opt to complete the training course online. The approved assessors were in general satisfied with the arrangement.

LD will continue to widely publicise the rights of employees with disabilities to receive SMW and to choose to undergo productivity assessment, and closely monitor the implementation of the assessment mechanism.

**Number of employees with disabilities who completed the productivity assessment
under SMW regime from 2018 to February 2021:
a breakdown by type of disabilities**

Type of disabilities	No. of employees [^]			
	2018	2019	2020	2021 (January to February)
Intellectual disability	24	21	6	2
Mental illness	7	11	4	1
Autism	3	5	1	-
Speech impairment	4	4	-	-
Attention deficit/ hyperactivity disorder	1	1	1	-
Physical disability	-	4	-	-
Visceral disability/ chronic illness	-	1	-	-
Specific learning difficulties	-	-	1	-
No. of employees with disabilities	31	35	11	3

[^] Some employees had more than 1 type of disabilities.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)021

(Question Serial No. 2110)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

- (a) The Labour Department (LD) provides free employment assistance for job seekers and conducts recruitment services. What was the number of job seekers registered with LD for employment services in each of the past 3 years? Please provide the information with a breakdown by different age groups as follows:

Age group	2020-2021	2019-2020	2018-2019
18 to 24			
25 to 34			
35 to 44			
45 to 54			
55 to 64			
65 or above			

- (b) Did LD increase the number of recruitment activities organised in response to the high unemployment rate in recent years? Please set out in table form the number of recruitment activities organised by LD and the number of participating unemployed persons for the past 3 years respectively.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

LD provides, through different measures and channels, comprehensive and free employment services to job seekers. It also provides employment services that suit the needs of job seekers with disabilities who are fit for open employment. As regards the Member's question, the information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 38 567, 43 742 and 41 180 able-bodied job seekers registered with LD for employment services. Currently, the vast majority of vacancies advertised through LD provide employers' contact details. Job seekers

may obtain information on job vacancies through channels such as the Interactive Employment Service website and its mobile application, vacancy search terminals installed at various locations across the territory and large-scale job fairs without registration with LD, and make direct application to employers. A breakdown of able-bodied job seekers registered with LD for employment services by age group is provided below:

Age group	2018	2019	2020
Below 18	371	362	187
18 to 24	7 687	7 866	6 784
25 to 34	7 263	7 964	7 786
35 to 44	6 933	7 968	7 155
45 to 54	9 122	10 251	9 794
55 to 64	6 523	8 225	8 425
65 or above	668	1 106	1 049
Total	38 567	43 742	41 180

Moreover, there were respectively 2 766, 2 766 and 2 478 job seekers with disabilities registered with the Selective Placement Division for employment services in 2018, 2019 and 2020. A breakdown of the numbers by age group is provided below:

Age group	2018	2019	2020
Below 18	15	37	4
18 to 24	573	600	460
25 to 34	716	709	689
35 to 44	650	589	593
45 to 54	529	475	439
55 to 64	262	314	258
65 or above	21	42	35
Total	2 766	2 766	2 478

- (b) In the face of an economic downturn, LD has enhanced liaison with employers of various industries to organise thematic job fairs for industries with recruitment needs in light of the employment market situation, supply and demand of job vacancies in different locations, etc., so as to help job seekers with different backgrounds secure employment. The number of recruitment activities organised by LD and the number of job seekers participating in the relevant activities/the number of on-the-spot interviews arranged in 2018, 2019 and 2020 are as follows:

District-based job fairs

	No. of activities	No. of on-the-spot interviews arranged*
2018	958	24 877
2019	960	32 098
2020@	586	22 905

*LD does not keep the number of job seekers participating in the district-based job fairs.

Industry-based job fairs

	No. of activities	No. of participating job seekers
2018	666	17 374
2019	653	20 549
2020 [@]	354	10 257

Large-scale job fairs

	No. of activities	No. of participating job seekers/ online job applications
2018	19	32 833
2019	18	25 407
2020 [@]	5 [#]	4 250 participating job seekers and 3 626 online job applications

[#]Including 3 large-scale physical job fairs and 2 large-scale online job fairs.

[@]In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, LD's job centres and industry-based recruitment centres were intermittently closed in 2020, with recruitment activities suspended, so as to reduce social contacts and prevent the spread of the pandemic. As a result, the number of job fairs organised in 2020 was lower than previous years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)022

(Question Serial No. 2183)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Government provides one-stop employment services for ethnic minority (EM) job seekers through the Racial Diversity Employment Programme (RDEP). In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What were the total number of application cases received under RDEP in the past (by year) and the number of successfully matched cases?
- (b) What are the administrative expenses required for RDEP each year? Is additional manpower required by the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) responsible for RDEP?
- (c) Has the Government widely publicised RDEP among the EM communities? What are the publicity measures and expenditure involved?
- (d) Is the Government consistently identifying more job vacancies of different varieties through RDEP? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 62)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) During the four-month period from the launch of RDEP on 1 November 2020 to the end of February 2021, a total of 260 EM job seekers participated in the programme and 28 placements were recorded.
- (b) The estimated annual expenditure for payment of service fees to the 2 NGOs commissioned to implement RDEP is around \$5 million. These 2 NGOs employed 6 and 2 additional staff members respectively for the implementation of RDEP.

- (c) The Labour Department (LD) and the 2 NGOs commissioned actively promote RDEP among the EM communities by producing publicity materials translated into English and 6 EM languages (including Tagalog, Bahasa Indonesia, Thai, Hindi, Urdu and Nepali) for distribution through various channels; setting up dedicated webpages in the Interactive Employment Service website of LD and websites of the NGOs commissioned; publicising RDEP through radio programmes in EM languages, newspapers and social media; proactively reaching out to EMs at their gathering spots such as district-based organisations, grocery stores, food establishments, etc., and establishing liaison with EM organisations, religious bodies, welfare organisations, schools, etc. to acquaint more EM job seekers with RDEP. The above activities are undertaken by staff of LD and the NGOs commissioned among their other duties, and the expenditure involved cannot be separately identified.
- (d) The NGOs commissioned to implement RDEP will actively liaise with employers in different industries to enhance their understanding of the employability of EMs, and provide employers in need with information on EM cultures and communication skills as well as other forms of support so as to allay their concerns over employing EMs, thereby identifying more job vacancies suitable for EMs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)023

(Question Serial No. 1065)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please set out in table form the number of imported workers applied for under the Supplementary Labour Scheme (SLS) and the success rate, by industry and job title, in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2018, 2019 and 2020). What was the average time taken from receipt of applications to completion of the vetting procedure for the applications in each year of the same period? What was the longest and shortest processing time among these cases in each year? Is there any review or enhancement of SLS to take effective labour importation measures to provide appropriate and timely replenishment for the shortage trades? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

In 2018, 2019 and 2020, employers applied to import 5 095, 4 721 and 4 204 workers respectively under SLS. The numbers of imported workers approved respectively in these 3 years were 3 225, 3 378 and 3 123. The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year. Breakdowns of the numbers of imported workers applied for and approved by industry and job title are at Annexes 1 to 4.

The actual time required to process each SLS application is affected by various factors (for instance, whether the applicant employer has provided sufficient information or requested to change the application details during processing, whether special trade tests need to be administered for local job seekers during the open recruitment period, etc.). If the job vacancies involve novel job titles or special skills, the Labour Department will need more time to seek the advice of relevant bureaux and/or departments, training bodies, professional bodies, etc. in setting the reasonable wages, entry requirements, scope of duties, etc. in respect of the job titles concerned. In recent years, the processing of most SLS applications has taken about 5 months.

Relevant government bureaux and departments will closely monitor the manpower demand and supply of different sectors. On the premise of safeguarding the employment priority of local workers, employers facing genuine difficulties in local recruitment can apply for importation of workers at technician level or below under SLS.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020:
a breakdown by industry**

Industry	No. of imported workers applied for*			No. of imported workers approved*		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1. Agriculture and Fishing	886	970	1 072	705	797	780
2. Manufacturing	390	485	274	158	176	192
3. Construction	351	561	46	589	172	218
4. Wholesale, Retail and Import/Export Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	483	448	290	197	270	228
5. Transport, Storage and Communications	68	131	38	24	9	16
6. Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	168	73	8	19	28	18
7. Community, Social and Personal Services	2 749	2 053	2 476	1 533	1 926	1 671
Total	5 095	4 721	4 204	3 225	3 378	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	2 108	1 409
2. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	553	448
3. Gardening Worker	315	247
4. Cook	302	155
5. Machine Operator	165	57
6. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	112	69
7. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	87	79
8. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	79	38
9. Waste Handling Worker	72	19
10. Others	1 302	704
Total	5 095	3 225

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2019:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	1 707	1 718
2. Gardening Worker	483	353
3. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	480	435
4. Cook	291	170
5. Machine Operator	240	83
6. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	105	86
7. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	102	73
8. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	45	37
9. Waste Handling Worker	43	45
10. Others	1 225	378
Total	4 721	3 378

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2020:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	2 199	1 511
2. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	625	474
3. Gardening Worker	437	305
4. Cook	207	158
5. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	117	90
6. Machine Operator	107	75
7. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	81	73
8. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	69	50
9. Waste Handling Worker	66	23
10. Others	296	364
Total	4 204	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)024

(Question Serial No. 1069)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Safety and Health at Work

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding accidents in the food and beverage services sector, please provide a breakdown by type of accidents and its percentage share in the total number of accidents in the food and beverage services sector; and the numbers of injuries/deaths and amounts of compensation claimed for work injuries in the past 3 years (i.e. 2018-2020).

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

In the full years of 2018 and 2019 and the first 3 quarters of 2020, the numbers of industrial accidents in the food and beverage services sector were 5 047, 4 425 and 2 329 respectively. No industrial fatalities occurred during these periods. A breakdown by type of accidents and its percentage share in the total number of industrial accidents in the food and beverage services sector is provided at the Annex.

The amounts of employees' compensation for work injuries payable in 2018, 2019 and 2020 in the food and beverage services sector were \$131.3 million, \$136.3 million and \$95.2 million respectively.

**Industrial Accidents in the Food and Beverage Services Sector
in 2018, 2019 and the First 3 Quarters of 2020 by Type of Accidents**

Type of accidents	2018		2019		First 3 quarters of 2020		Total number of accidents	Percentage share in total number of accidents
	Number of accidents	Percentage share in total number of accidents	Number of accidents	Percentage share in total number of accidents	Number of accidents	Percentage share in total number of accidents		
Contact with hot surface or substance	1 182	23.4%	1 072	24.2%	596	25.6%	2 850	24.2%
Slip, trip or fall on same level	1 042	20.6%	928	21.0%	527	22.6%	2 497	21.2%
Injured by hand tool	923	18.3%	796	18.0%	388	16.7%	2 107	17.9%
Injured whilst lifting or carrying	828	16.4%	673	15.2%	370	15.9%	1 871	15.9%
Striking against fixed or stationary object	467	9.3%	413	9.3%	212	9.1%	1 092	9.3%
Striking against or struck by moving object	232	4.6%	213	4.8%	103	4.4%	548	4.6%
Others	373	7.4%	330	7.5%	133	5.7%	836	6.9%
TOTAL	5 047	100%	4 425	100%	2 329	100%	11 801	100%

Note: Industrial accident statistics are released on a quarterly basis and the latest available statistics are up to the first 3 quarters of 2020. The industrial accident statistics for the full year of 2020 will be released in April 2021.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)025

(Question Serial No. 1079)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please set out in table form the top 3 industries that accounted for the largest number of applications to the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund (PWIF) in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2018, 2019 and 2020) by amount of payment and number of applications. What was PWIF's financial position in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21) and what is its estimated financial position for 2021-22?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

The 3 industries that accounted for the largest amount of payment made by PWIF in 2018, 2019 and 2020 are set out at Annex 1. The 3 industries that accounted for the largest number of applications to PWIF over the same period are set out at Annex 2. Moreover, PWIF's financial position from 2018-19 to 2020-21 and estimated financial position for 2021-22 are provided at Annex 3.

**The 3 industries that accounted for the largest amount of payment
made by PWIF from 2018 to 2020**

Year	Industry	Amount of payment (\$million)
2018	Food and beverage service activities	11.7
	Retail trade	7.6
	Construction	5.2
2019	Construction	35.8
	Retail trade	10.9
	Food and beverage service activities	9.0
2020	Food and beverage service activities	24.3
	Construction	12.8
	Import and export trade	6.1

**The 3 industries that accounted for the largest number of applications
to PWIF from 2018 to 2020**

Year	Industry	Number of applications
2018	Construction	549
	Food and beverage service activities	483
	Retail trade	319
2019	Construction	1 154
	Food and beverage service activities	846
	Retail trade	239
2020	Food and beverage service activities	1 053
	Construction	497
	Retail trade	363

**PWIF's financial position from 2018-19 to 2020-21
and estimated financial position for 2021-22**

Year	Income (\$million)	Expenditure (\$million)	Surplus (\$million)
2018-19	509.9	96.7	413.2
2019-20	546.5	131.9	414.6
2020-21	423.1*	97.3*	325.8*
2021-22 (Estimates)	475.9	147.4	328.5

* Figures as at January 2021

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)026

(Question Serial No. 1284)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme, would the Government advise this Committee:

- (a) of the participating enterprises under the scheme, and whether the number of participating enterprises meets the expectations;
- (b) of the number of Hong Kong young people participating in the scheme, and whether the number of participants meets the expectations;
- (c) whether it will increase the number of places if the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme receives very favourable responses; and
- (d) whether it will step up publicity so that more Hong Kong young people can gain an understanding of the jobs in the Greater Bay Area; if yes, what are the details; if not, what are the reasons?

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

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) Launched on 8 January 2021, the scheme provides 2 000 places. It has received active support from many employer associations and enterprises soon after its launch. As at 28 February, there were 204 enterprises offering 1 512 job vacancies in total. The Scheme Secretariat had displayed 1 295 vacancies after vetting. A list of the enterprises is provided below:

List of Enterprises (Enterprises with 20 or more vacancies displayed)

Name of enterprise	No. of vacancies
PricewaterhouseCoopers and its related companies	146
Tencent Mobility	73
GP Electronics (HK) and its related companies	72
Bank of China (Hong Kong) and its related companies	66
Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong)	50
Mission Hills (China)	49
Huawei Technologies	40
The Hong Kong and China Gas	33
Compass Technology	30
Hong Kong Victoria Harbour Education Group	27
Yuzhou Administration Services	20
Sun Hung Kai Real Estate Agency	20
Others (Enterprises with less than 20 displayed vacancies)	669
Total	1 295

- (b) The Scheme Secretariat has progressively uploaded the vetted vacancies to the dedicated website of the scheme starting from 21 January 2021 for open application by eligible young people. As at 28 February, job seekers had submitted a total of 1 011 applications for the job vacancies under the scheme using the online job application function of the website. The scheme allows enterprises to conduct recruitment through different channels. Job seekers may submit their job applications directly to the participating employers without using the Interactive Employment Service (iES) website of the Labour Department (LD). Therefore, the above number of online job applications submitted via the iES website of LD does not reflect the overall applications received under the scheme. It is too early to evaluate at this stage the young people's participation in the scheme as the scheme has just been open for job applications for a short period of time.
- (c) The Government will closely monitor the implementation of the scheme, including the usage of places under the scheme, and conduct reviews in a timely manner.
- (d) To reach out to more young people, LD has launched a series of publicity work since the implementation of scheme, including advertising in job magazines, on employment websites and major modes of public transport; broadcasting radio Announcements in the Public Interest (APIs) and publicising the scheme on multiple websites, traffic and news mobile applications, social platforms and internet search tools. LD has also liaised with the universities and other institutions that offer degree programmes and called on their support to promote the scheme and encourage the participation of eligible graduates.

Moreover, LD will collaborate with individual tertiary institutions in organising online talks to introduce the scheme. It will stage large-scale thematic job fairs to provide effective and convenient platforms for participating enterprises to conduct recruitment and eligible graduates to submit job applications. It will also display roadside banners in various districts and partner with radio stations in producing broadcasting programmes and APIs for placement on more social platforms and websites.

LD will continue its publicity and promotion work to encourage more young people to participate in the scheme and seize the opportunities it provides.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)027

(Question Serial No. 1314)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: Not specified
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

As mentioned in the Budget Speech, the Government helps Hong Kong's businesses and youths grasp the opportunities arising from the Greater Bay Area (GBA) development through various schemes. What were the expenditure and manpower involved in helping the youths to seek job opportunities in GBA last year? What is the work progress?

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 71)

Reply:

To help young people grasp the opportunities arising from GBA development and encourage them to work and pursue their career in the Mainland cities of GBA, the Government launched the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme on 8 January 2021 to encourage enterprises with operation in both Hong Kong and the Mainland cities of GBA to recruit and deploy local university graduates to work in the Mainland cities of GBA. The scheme provides a total of 2 000 places, around 700 of which are designated for innovation and technology posts.

The scheme has received active support from many employer associations and enterprises soon after its launch. As at 28 February, there were 204 enterprises offering 1 512 job vacancies in total. The Scheme Secretariat has progressively uploaded the vetted vacancies to the dedicated website of the scheme starting from 21 January for open application by eligible young people.

The Government allocated \$376 million from the Anti-epidemic Fund to launch the scheme. As at 28 February, the expenditure on the scheme for 2020-21 was around \$870,000. The relevant funding is outside the scope of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account. As for manpower, the scheme is implemented through internal staff deployment within the Government. As the staff concerned also undertake other duties, the manpower involved cannot be separately identified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)028

(Question Serial No. 3229)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Department (LD) promulgated the Code of Practice for Employment Agencies (the Code) in January 2017. The Code provides that employment agencies (EAs) should maintain transparency in business operations (e.g. a fee schedule should be drawn up, etc.), with the aim of promoting the professionalism and service quality of the industry. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number of applications of foreign domestic helpers (FDHs) coming to work in Hong Kong refused by the Immigration Department (ImmD) and the reasons for refusal in each of the past 3 years;
- (b) the current number of licensed EAs providing FDH placement service in Hong Kong and the number of FDHs granted employment visas to work in Hong Kong, with a breakdown by nationality;
- (c) since the implementation of the Code, the numbers of regular and surprise inspections to EAs providing FDH placement service and the number of investigations undertaken in response to complaints in each year; and
- (d) since the implementation of the Code, with breakdown according to the provision of the Code contravened, (i) the number of complaints about non-compliance of EAs providing FDH placement service received; (ii) the number of prosecutions taken out against EAs providing FDH placement service; (iii) the number of successful prosecutions taken out against EAs providing FDH placement service and the penalties in each year?

Asked by: Hon CHIANG Lai-wan (LegCo internal reference no.: 82)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) According to ImmD's information, ImmD refused 578, 524 and 515 entry visa applications of FDHs in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively.

FDHs may apply to enter Hong Kong for employment if they fulfil the following requirements: they possess two years of relevant work experience and their employers are Hong Kong residents who will offer the terms of employment stipulated in the Standard Employment Contract. Employers must also meet the required minimum level of income or assets. Apart from the above criteria, FDHs also have to meet the normal immigration requirements, such as holding a valid travel document with adequate returnability to his/her place of origin or country of citizenship; with no criminal record and raising no security or criminal concerns to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR); having no likelihood of becoming a burden to the HKSAR, etc. ImmD has all along been assessing FDHs' employment visa applications rigorously and will consider refusing such applications if the applicants (including the FDH or the employer) do not fulfil the above requirements or are found to have any adverse records or breaches.

- (b) As at the end of February 2021, there were 1 538 EAs providing FDH placement service in Hong Kong.

According to ImmD's information, statistics on the approval of entry visas for FDHs in 2020 with a breakdown by nationality of applicants are set out at Annex 1.

- (c) In 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and the period from January to February 2021, the Employment Agencies Administration (EAA) of LD conducted 1 515, 1 533, 1 390, 1 091 and 163 inspections respectively, covering both regular and surprise ones, to EAs providing FDH placement service. During the same period, EAA conducted investigation into respectively 199, 357, 475, 290 and 61 complaints against EAs providing FDH placement service.
- (d) LD promulgated the Code in January 2017, setting out the salient legislative requirements that EAs must observe in their operations and the minimum standards which the Commissioner for Labour (CL) expects from EAs. If an EA has not complied with the Code, LD may revoke or refuse to issue or renew the EA's licence, or issue warnings to the EA for rectification of the irregularities detected.

The relevant figures on complaints received by EAA against EAs providing FDH placement service about suspected non-compliance with the Code and successful prosecutions taken out from 2017 to February 2021 are set out at Annex 2. LD does not keep a breakdown of complaints by individual provision of the Code.

**Number of entry visas approved for FDHs in 2020
(breakdown by nationality of applicants)**

Nationality	No. of entry visas approved
Filipino	39 887
Indonesian	27 159
Indian	1 033
Thai	267
Sri Lankan	207
Bangladeshi	130
Myanmarese	10
Others	171
Total	68 864

Relevant figures on complaints received against EAs providing FDH placement service about suspected non-compliance with the Code and successful prosecutions taken out by LD from 2017 to February 2021

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 (up to February)
No. of complaints received by EAA against EAs providing FDH placement service about suspected non-compliance with the Code	50	91	122	134	22
No. of EAs providing FDH placement service successfully prosecuted	8	6	8	10	-^
Average fine for offences of overcharging of commission from job seekers and unlicensed operation	\$9,250	\$11,000	\$45,333	\$17,933	-^
Average fine for other offences*	\$2,000	\$2,633	\$2,250	\$2,300	-^

^ Up to the end of February 2021, there were no successful prosecution cases involving EAs providing FDH placement service.

* Including operating EA at a place other than the place of business specified in the licence, failure to maintain proper records, failure to notify LD of changes in the management within the statutory timeframe, furnishing to CL any information which was known or reasonably ought to be known to be false or misleading in any material particular when submitting an application for renewal of licence, failure to display the licence and the schedule specifying the maximum commission which may be received from job seekers, etc.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)029

(Question Serial No. 1729)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Department (LD) provides free employment services for all job seekers. Would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) Please provide details of services for young people, persons with disabilities, new arrivals and ethnic minorities (EMs) in the past 3 years.
- (b) Please provide details of the additional resources needed in the coming financial year.

Asked by: Hon CHOW Ho-ding, Holden (LegCo internal reference no.: 79)

Reply:

LD provides comprehensive and free employment services for job seekers through various measures and channels. It also provides suitable employment services for job seekers with disabilities fit for open employment. As regards the Member's question, the information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) LD implements the Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP) which provides a series of free and dedicated training and employment support services, including pre-employment training courses, workplace attachment training, on-the-job training and case management service, for young school leavers aged 15 to 24 with educational attainment at sub-degree level or below. LD also operates 2 Youth Employment Resource Centres named Youth Employment Start to provide one-stop advisory and support services on employment and self-employment for young people aged 15 to 29.

The Selective Placement Division (SPD) of LD provides personalised employment services for job seekers with disabilities fit for open employment. The employment consultants of SPD conduct in-depth interviews to learn about the qualifications, skills, experience, career preferences, etc. of individual job seekers with disabilities in order to

provide them with employment counselling that help them understand their work capabilities and market demands. The employment consultants proactively conduct job matching, canvass suitable job vacancies for job seekers with disabilities and refer them to employers for job interviews. Upon placing job seekers with disabilities into employment, the employment consultants will provide follow-up service for at least 6 months. SPD also implements the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme which encourages employers, through the provision of an allowance, to engage persons with disabilities and provide them with coaching and support.

LD has been making ongoing efforts to provide comprehensive and free employment services for all job seekers, including newly-arrived and EM job seekers, through 13 job centres across the territory, 3 industry-based recruitment centres, a Telephone Employment Service Centre and the Interactive Employment Service (iES) website, etc. In addition to general employment services, all job centres provide a wide range of dedicated employment services such as special counters, resource corners and employment briefings, etc. to cater for their employment needs, help them better understand the latest local labour market situation and improve their job search skills. Newly-arrived and EM job seekers may also meet employment officers at job centres to obtain personalised employment advisory service. LD also encourages job seekers with employment difficulties, including newly-arrived and EM job seekers, to participate in various employment programmes to enhance their employability.

To facilitate browsing by newly-arrived and EM job seekers, key information on all job vacancies advertised through LD is translated and displayed in Chinese (including traditional and simplified Chinese) and English on the iES website, its mobile application and vacancy search terminals, and relevant publicity materials are translated into 6 EM languages. LD also makes arrangements with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to provide interpretation services for EM job seekers who speak neither Chinese nor English, and promotes its employment services among new arrivals and EMs through NGOs serving them. LD also organises large-scale and district-based job fairs as well as inclusive job fairs, and encourages the participation of newly-arrived and EM job seekers to enhance their employment opportunities.

Besides, since September 2014, LD has implemented the Employment Services Ambassador (ESA) Programme for EMs, under which trainees of YETP who can communicate in EM languages are employed as ESAs at job centres or industry-based recruitment centres to help EM job seekers use various job search facilities and services. Since May 2017, LD has engaged 2 employment assistants proficient in EM languages at the Kowloon West Job Centre and Yuen Long Job Centre to strengthen employment support for EM job seekers. Since November 2020, LD has also commissioned 2 NGOs to implement the Racial Diversity Employment Programme to provide one-stop employment services for EM job seekers in a case management approach through NGOs.

- (b) LD's provision for 2021-22 in respect of Employment Services is \$137.4 million (32.1%) higher than the revised estimate for 2020-21. It mainly involves an increased provision of \$125.2 million for various employment programmes.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)030

(Question Serial No. 3278)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Will the Government formulate policies to support employment of ethnic minorities (EMs) in the private sector? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon HO Kwan-yiu, Junius (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

The aim of the Labour Department's (LD) employment services is to provide a comprehensive range of free employment assistance and recruitment services to help job seekers (including EMs) find suitable jobs and employers recruit workers. In addition to general employment services, all job centres provide a wide range of dedicated employment services such as special counters, resource corners, employment briefings, etc. to cater for the employment needs of EM job seekers. Since September 2014, LD has implemented the Employment Services Ambassador (ESA) Programme for EMs, under which trainees of the Youth Employment and Training Programme who can communicate in EM languages are employed as ESAs at job centres or industry-based recruitment centres to help EM job seekers use various job search facilities and services. To strengthen the training for the trainees, LD has extended the on-the-job training period from 6 months to 1 year for those ESAs engaged since September 2018. Moreover, since May 2017, LD has engaged 2 employment assistants proficient in EM languages at Kowloon West Job Centre and Yuen Long Job Centre to strengthen employment support for EM job seekers. LD has also made arrangements with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to provide interpretation services for EM job seekers who speak neither Chinese nor English.

At the same time, LD has been making ongoing efforts to canvass and disseminate vacancies suitable for EM job seekers. Key information on all job vacancies advertised through LD is translated and displayed in Chinese and English on the Interactive Employment Service website, its mobile application and vacancy search terminals to facilitate browsing by EM job seekers. LD also organises inclusive job fairs to enhance the employment opportunities of EM job seekers. To further strengthen the employment support for EM job seekers, LD has

commissioned 2 NGOs to implement the Racial Diversity Employment Programme since November 2020 to provide one-stop employment services for EM job seekers in a case management approach through NGOs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)031

(Question Serial No. 0408)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Government has stated in the Budget that the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme offered around 700 innovation and technology places to provide graduates of relevant faculties and departments of local universities with job and on-the-job training opportunities. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee:

- (a) of the number of applicants or/and approved applicants to date;
- (b) of the recruiting enterprises which have submitted applications or/and those whose applications have been approved to date (please provide a list of the enterprises approved and their line of business);
- (c) whether performance indicators have been set; if yes, of the details; if not, the reasons for that; and
- (d) whether it has examined the intention of the current applicants or/and approved applicants to stay continually in the Greater Bay Area for work; and whether consideration has been given to providing more incentives to attract approved applicants to stay there continually for development; if yes, of the details; if not, the reasons for that?

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

- (a) As at 28 February 2021, job seekers have submitted a total of 208 job applications for innovation and technology posts using the online job application function of the Interactive Employment Service (iES) website of the Labour Department (LD). The scheme allows enterprises to conduct recruitment through different channels. Job seekers may submit job applications directly to the participating employers without using the iES website of LD. Therefore, the above number of online job applications

submitted via the iES website of LD does not reflect the overall applications under the scheme.

- (b) As at 28 February 2021, there were 139 enterprises offering 791 innovation and technology job vacancies. The Scheme Secretariat had displayed 666 vacancies after vetting. A list of the enterprises is provided below:

List of Enterprises (Enterprises with 20 or more innovation and technology vacancies displayed)

Name of enterprise	No. of vacancies
GP Electronics (HK) and its related companies	65
Huawei Technologies	40
PricewaterhouseCoopers and its related companies	34
Tencent Mobility	33
Compass Technology	30
The Hong Kong and China Gas	20
Others (Enterprises with less than 20 displayed vacancies)	444
Total	666

LD does not keep information on the line of business of the enterprises.

- (c) The Government will closely monitor the implementation of the scheme, including the number of job vacancies offered by the enterprises, the number of applications for allowance submitted by the enterprises, opinions of job seekers and enterprises on the scheme, etc., with a view to reviewing the effectiveness of the scheme. Since the scheme was launched and open for application from enterprises on 8 January 2021, it has received active support from many employer associations and enterprises. As at 28 February, 204 enterprises have submitted to the Scheme Secretariat a total of 1 512 job vacancies, including 791 innovation and technology posts and 721 general posts. The response to the scheme has been positive.
- (d) The information sought is not available as the Scheme Secretariat has not conducted any survey on the intention of job seekers to stay continually in the Greater Bay Area for work.

The thriving economic development of the Greater Bay Area provides abundant job and career development opportunities for young people. Apart from helping young people get used to the lifestyle and working environment in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area and build their social networks, the scheme also encourages enterprises to offer further employment to the suitable young people upon completion of the subsidy period. It is believed that this would help young people participating in the scheme continue to stay and work in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)032

(Question Serial No. 1762)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Under the Supplementary Labour Scheme (SLS), employers having genuine difficulties in recruiting suitable staff locally may import workers at technician level or below. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee of:

- (a) the numbers of imported workers in the elderly care service industry, the construction industry and other major industries in the past 3 years; and
- (b) the manpower and expenditure involved in the above-mentioned SLS in the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) A breakdown of the number of imported workers approved under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020 by industry is at Annex 1.
- (b) SLS is primarily administered by the Supplementary Labour Division (SLD) of the Labour Department. The general expenses (excluding staff cost) and staff establishment of SLD from 2018-19 to 2020-21 are at Annex 2.

**Number of imported workers approved
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020:
a breakdown by industry**

Industry	No. of imported workers approved		
	2018	2019	2020
1. Agriculture and Fishing	705	797	780
2. Manufacturing	158	176	192
3. Construction	589	172	218
4. Wholesale, Retail and Import/Export Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	197	270	228
5. Transport, Storage and Communications	24	9	16
6. Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	19	28	18
7. Community, Social and Personal Services	1 533 (1 409)	1 926 (1 718)	1 671 (1 511)
Total	3 225	3 378	3 123

Note: Figures in brackets denote the numbers for the elderly care service industry.

**General expenses (excluding staff cost) and staff establishment of SLD
from 2018-19 to 2020-21**

Year	General expenses (excluding staff cost)	Staff establishment
2018-19	\$340,000	31 Labour Officer Grade and 16 Clerical Grade posts
2019-20	\$610,000	36 Labour Officer Grade and 17 Clerical Grade posts
2020-21	\$290,000 (revised estimate)	36 Labour Officer Grade, 16 Clerical Grade and 1 Workman II posts

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)033

(Question Serial No. 0231)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (1) Labour Relations
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

In 2020-21, the Labour Department (LD) launched a series of promotional activities to enhance public understanding of the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57) (EO) including the extension of statutory maternity leave from 10 weeks to 14 weeks. In this connection, please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the channels used and activities launched by LD last year, during which Hong Kong was shrouded by the pandemic the whole year round;
- (b) the manpower and expenditure involved for the activities.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) Through a wide range of channels and promotional activities, LD has been enhancing the understanding among employers, employees and the public of EO, including promotion of the implementation of the Employment (Amendment) Ordinance 2020 for extending statutory maternity leave from 10 weeks to 14 weeks.

In 2020, the above work and activities included publishing and distributing guidebooks and leaflets, organising seminars, placing advertisements at public transport network, issuing newspaper feature articles in the form of comics, producing animation videos, producing and broadcasting television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest, etc. LD also disseminated relevant information through networks of major employers' associations, trade union federations, human resource professional bodies, etc.

- (b) Promotional activities for publicising EO form an integral part of LD's efforts in the promotion of harmonious labour relations, effective employer-employee

communication as well as good human resource management. The manpower and expenditure involved cannot be separately identified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)034

(Question Serial No. 0232)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (3) Safety and Health at Work
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please advise this Committee of the number of inspections conducted by the Labour Department (LD) in the past 3 years on occupational safety performance of outsourced contractors, the number of workplaces inspected and the number of inspections in which non-compliance was detected. Of these, how many resulted in prosecutions? How many prosecutions were successful with fines imposed and what was the amount of fines for each case?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

LD conducted 715 inspections on occupational safety and health performance from 2018 to 2020 targeting at 555 workplaces of government outsourced contractors engaging non-skilled employees, resulting in the issue of 233 written warnings and 17 improvement notices to the contractors concerned.

Over the same period, LD took out prosecutions against contractors for suspected breaches of the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance detected during the investigation of 5 work accidents involving government outsourced contractors engaging non-skilled employees. The contractors involved in 3 of the cases were convicted and fined \$16,000, \$45,000 and \$6,000 respectively, while those in the remaining 2 cases were acquitted.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)035

(Question Serial No. 0233)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund (PWIF), please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number of PWIF applications approved, and the number of persons involved as well as the amount of ex gratia payment made in each application;
- (b) the number of applications refused, the number of persons involved in each application and the main reasons for refusal;
- (c) the total amount of ex gratia payment made under PWIF; and
- (d) the income and expenditure of PWIF

in each of the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) to (c) The number of PWIF applications approved and the amount of ex gratia payment made from 2016 to 2020 are at Annex 1. The number of applications for ex gratia payment refused by PWIF over the same period is at Annex 2. Applications were refused mainly because the applicants could not submit sufficient information to support their applications, the applicants were or had been a registered director of the companies concerned, and the applicants were not eligible for the statutory entitlement.
- (d) The income and expenditure of PWIF from 2015-16 to 2019-20 are at Annex 3.

**Number of PWIF applications approved and
amount of ex gratia payment made from 2016 to 2020**

Year	No. of applications approved*	Amount of ex gratia payment made (\$million)
2016	2 429	80.2
2017	2 640	79.6
2018	1 689	51.0
2019	2 524	83.1
2020	2 428	78.5

* Including applications received in the same year or before.

Note: Applications are reckoned on a per-employee basis. Hence, the number of applications is the same as the number of persons involved.

**Number of applications for ex gratia payment refused by PWIF
from 2016 to 2020**

Year	No. of applications refused ^{#*}
2016	41
2017	36
2018	22
2019	31
2020	106

Applications refused refer to applications where all of the ex gratia payment items applied for were refused.

* Including applications received in the same year or before.

Note: Applications are reckoned on a per-employee basis. Hence, the number of applications is the same as the number of persons involved.

Income and expenditure of PWIF from 2015-16 to 2019-20

Year	Income (\$million)	Expenditure (\$million)
2015-16	416.2	191.3
2016-17	451.3	138.8
2017-18	480.7	46.6
2018-19	509.9	96.7
2019-20	546.5	131.9

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)036

(Question Serial No. 0234)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Labour Relations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the handling of labour disputes by the Labour Department (LD), please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number of labour disputes handled by LD in the past 5 years, with breakdowns by industry and cause;
- (b) the number of claims handled in the past 5 years, with breakdowns by industry and cause.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) From 2016 to 2020, the number of labour disputes (i.e. cases involving over 20 employees) handled by LD with breakdowns by industry and cause is set out at Annex 1.
- (b) From 2016 to 2020, the number of claims (i.e. cases involving 20 or less employees) handled by LD with breakdowns by industry and cause is set out at Annex 2.

Number of labour disputes handled by LD from 2016 to 2020

(i) By industry

Industry#	Number of labour disputes		
	2016	2017	2018
Manufacturing	1	2	-
Construction	27	33	63
Wholesale, retail and import/export trades	5	6	5
Restaurants and hotels	5	5	6
Transport, storage and communications	7	6	6
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	6	1	7
Community, social and personal services	4	4	3
Total	55	57	90

Industry#	Number of labour disputes	
	2019	2020
Manufacturing	1	-
Construction	46	35
Import/export, wholesale and retail trades	6	10
Transportation, storage, postal and courier services	1	9
Accommodation and food service activities	17	24
Information and communications	-	1
Financial and insurance activities	1	-
Real estate activities	2	-
Professional, scientific and technical activities	1	-
Administrative and support service activities	-	2
Education	-	1
Human health and social work activities	-	1

Industry#	Number of labour disputes	
	2019	2020
Arts, entertainment and recreation	-	2
Other service activities	1	-
Total	76	85

Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification Version 1.1 (HSIC V1.1) of the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) was adopted for industrial classification until 2018. HSIC V2.0 of C&SD has been adopted for industrial classification since 2019.

(ii) By cause

Cause	Number of labour disputes				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Dispute involving principal contractor and subcontractor	23	30	47	27	19
Cessation of business/ insolvency	15	16	14	24	31
Dispute on wages	4	4	12	18	19
Dismissal	5	-	1	1	4
Retrenchment/lay-off	2	-	6	-	1
Variation of terms of employment contract	-	-	-	1	4
Others	6	7	10	5	7
Total	55	57	90	76	85

Number of claims handled by LD from 2016 to 2020

(i) By industry

LD did not keep a breakdown of the number of claims by industry up to 2018. The number of claims handled by LD in 2019 and 2020 with a breakdown by industry is provided below:

Industry#	Number of claims	
	2019	2020
Construction	3 027	2 071
Import/export, wholesale and retail trades	1 281	1 126
Transportation, storage, postal and courier services	984	757
Accommodation and food service activities	2 562	2 436
Administrative and support service activities	1 038	989
Other service activities	1 313	771
Work activities within domestic households	1 122	825
Others*	2 428	2 016
Total	13 755	10 991

HSIC V2.0 of C&SD is adopted for industrial classification.

* Including individual industries that account for less than 5% of the total number of claims.

(ii) By cause

Cause	Number of claims				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Termination of contract	6 670	7 075	6 220	6 447	5 672
Dispute on wages	4 615	4 388	4 391	4 346	2 960
Dispute on holiday pay/ annual leave pay/ rest day pay/sickness allowance	1 609	1 471	1 456	1 320	996
Cessation of business/insolvency	183	157	129	130	68
Variation of terms of employment contract	91	122	71	93	150
Retrenchment/lay-off	126	78	113	126	177
Others	1 378	1 375	1 311	1 293	968
Total	14 672	14 666	13 691	13 755	10 991

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)037

(Question Serial No. 0235)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (1) Labour Relations
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Department (LD) produced a new set of television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest (APIs) early this year to promote the use of written employment contract. Please advise this Committee of LD's expenditure and manpower arrangement for the production of television and radio APIs in the past 3 years, the publicity channels and how the effectiveness of the publicity efforts was assessed.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

LD's expenditures for the production of television and radio APIs in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 were \$2,746,400, \$3,325,200 and \$1,498,700 respectively. As the above work has been undertaken by LD staff among their other duties, the manpower involved cannot be separately identified.

LD launches extensive promotional work on employment services, labour relations, occupational safety and health as well as employees' rights and benefits through various publicity channels. LD broadcasts television and radio APIs, distributes promotional leaflets and publications, displays promotional posters, places advertisements in various media (including newspapers, public transport network, online platforms, mobile applications and journals of trade unions/trade associations), produces thematic comics and animation videos, publishes newspaper supplements, organises thematic talks/seminars/roving exhibitions, screens publicity videos at information kiosks, disseminates messages through LD's webpages and other relevant webpages, etc. These promotional activities serve to enhance public understanding of the requirements of labour laws and services provided by LD, etc. While their effectiveness cannot be fully quantified, LD, in planning its publicity work, will take into account the information and statistics on different publicity channels, such as the target audience, coverage of the publicity channels concerned and view counts of the websites.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)038

(Question Serial No. 0236)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the regulation (including inspections, complaint investigations and prosecutions) of employment agencies (EAs) in Hong Kong, please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the staff establishment for inspections of EAs;
- (b) the number of EAs with non-compliances detected in inspections and prosecutions taken out and the details of the non-compliances in the past 3 years;
- (c) the number of non-compliance cases, numbers of prosecutions and successful prosecutions and the penalties against EAs involving intermediaries for foreign domestic helpers (FDHs) in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) In 2021-22, the Employment Agencies Administration (EAA) of the Labour Department (LD) has a staff establishment of 26 Labour Officer Grade and 9 Clerical Grade posts responsible for performing licensing duties, conducting inspections of EAs and investigating complaints, as well as other related publicity and educational work, etc. The conduct of investigations and inspections is an integral part of EAA's work in the regulation of EAs, and the manpower involved cannot be separately identified.
- (b) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, LD successfully prosecuted 10, 10 and 11 EAs respectively. The breaches of regulations involved mainly included overcharging of commission from job seekers, unlicensed operation of EAs, operating EA at a place other than the place of business specified in the licence, failure to maintain proper records, failure to notify LD of changes in the management and place of business within the statutory timeframe,

furnishing to the Commissioner for Labour (CL) any information which was known or reasonably ought to be known to be false or misleading in any material particular when submitting an application for renewal of licence, failure to display the licence or the schedule specifying the maximum commission which may be received from job seekers, etc.

- (c) The relevant figures on complaints received and successful prosecutions taken out by EAA against EAs providing FDH placement service from 2018 to 2020 are set out at the Annex.

**Relevant figures on complaints received and successful prosecutions taken out by LD
against EAs providing FDH placement service from 2018 to 2020**

	2018	2019	2020
Complaints received by EAA against EAs providing FDH placement service	357	475	290
No. of EAs successfully prosecuted	6	8	10
Average fine for offences of overcharging of commission from job seekers and unlicensed operation	\$11,000	\$45,333	\$17,933
Average fine for other offences*	\$2,633	\$2,250	\$2,300

- * Including operating EA at a place other than the place of business specified in the licence, failure to maintain proper records, failure to notify LD of changes in the management within the statutory timeframe, furnishing to CL any information which was known or reasonably ought to be known to be false or misleading in any material particular when submitting an application for renewal of licence, failure to display the licence or the schedule specifying the maximum commission which may be received from job seekers, etc.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)039

(Question Serial No. 0237)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme, please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number of preliminary applications vetted by the Labour Department (LD) up to now;
- (b) the number of preliminary approvals, with breakdowns by name of enterprise, industry, post and salary.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) As at 28 February 2021, 204 enterprises have joined the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme, offering a total of 1 512 job vacancies. The Scheme Secretariat has vetted and displayed 1 295 job vacancies.
- (b) The number of vetted and displayed job vacancies, with breakdowns by name of enterprise, industry, occupational group and monthly salary, is provided as follows:

(i) List of Enterprises (Enterprises with 20 or more vacancies displayed)

Name of enterprise	No. of vacancies
PricewaterhouseCoopers and its related companies	146
Tencent Mobility	73
GP Electronics (HK) and its related companies	72
Bank of China (Hong Kong) and its related companies	66
Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong)	50
Mission Hills (China)	49
Huawei Technologies	40
The Hong Kong and China Gas	33
Compass Technology	30
Hong Kong Victoria Harbour Education Group	27
Yuzhou Administration Services	20
Sun Hung Kai Real Estate Agency	20
Others (Enterprises with less than 20 vacancies displayed)	669
Total	1 295

(ii) By industry

Industry	No. of vacancies
Business services	415
Manufacture of electronic parts	146
Finance	127
Communication	100
Import and export trades	71
Real estates	61
Other non-manufacturing industry	262
Other manufacturing industry	113
Total	1 295

(iii) By occupational group

Occupational group	No. of vacancies
Professionals	762
Associate professionals	290
Managers and administrators	193
Clerical support workers	38
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	5
Craft and related workers	3
Others	4
Total	1 295

(iv) By monthly salary

Monthly salary*	No. of vacancies
\$18,000	1 025
\$18,001 - \$20,000	193
\$20,001 - \$22,000	2
\$22,001 - \$24,000	73
\$24,000 or above	2
Total	1 295

* Some employers gave a monthly salary range when providing salary information for the job vacancies. The above breakdown is based on the lower limit of the salary range for the job vacancies.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)040

(Question Serial No. 0238)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the Working Holiday Scheme (WHS), please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number of Hong Kong youths who applied for and were granted working holiday visas in the past 5 years, with a breakdown by name of economy;
- (b) the number of youths coming to Hong Kong through WHS in the past 5 years, with a breakdown by name of economy.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) Based on the information provided by the governments of WHS partner economies, a breakdown of the number of Hong Kong youths who were granted working holiday visas from 2016 to 2020 by economy is set out at Annex 1.
- (b) Based on the information provided by the Immigration Department, a breakdown of the number of youths from partner economies who were granted working holiday visas from 2016 to 2020 by economy is set out at Annex 2.

**Number of working holiday visas granted to
Hong Kong youths from 2016 to 2020**

Partner economy	No. of visas granted				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
New Zealand	400 ¹	400 ¹	401 ¹	317 ¹	1 ²
Australia	5 269	3 215	2 378	2 091	519 ³
Ireland	75	65	62	36	8
Germany	307 ⁴	149 ⁴	96 ⁴	73 ⁴	- ⁵
Japan	618	736	674	874	142 ³
Canada	297	215	189	241	25
Korea	260	234	239	180	30
France	59	42	63	51	5
United Kingdom	1 153	1 212	1 098	1 121	660
Austria	11	5	11	19	6
Hungary	- ⁶	- ⁶	- ⁷	3	1
Sweden	- ⁶	- ⁶	145	64	29
Netherlands	- ⁶	- ⁶	- ⁶	98	24
Italy	- ⁶	- ⁶	- ⁶	- ⁶	- ⁶

- Notes:
- ¹ Statistics from April of the year to March of the following year.
 - ² Statistics from April to December of the year.
 - ³ Statistics from January to June of the year.
 - ⁴ Statistics from July of the year to June of the following year.
 - ⁵ Statistics from July to December of the year.
 - ⁶ Scheme not yet in operation.
 - ⁷ Statistics from September to December of the year.

Number of working holiday visas for Hong Kong granted to youths from partner economies from 2016 to 2020

Partner economy	No. of visas granted				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
New Zealand	50	43	48	55	17
Australia	139	114	162	145	36
Ireland	23	23	18	17	7
Germany	69	67	68	59	24
Japan	80	112	127	101	51
Canada	77	80	92	78	21
Korea	758	559	465	362	192
France	500	459	440	468	147
United Kingdom	330	344	326	298	169
Austria	7	11	8	5	3
Hungary	¹	¹	1 ²	5	2
Sweden	¹	¹	22	20	6
Netherlands	¹	¹	¹	27	13
Italy	¹	¹	¹	¹	¹

Notes: ¹ Scheme not yet in operation.

² Statistics from September to December of the year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)041****(Question Serial No. 0239)**

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please advise this Committee of the number of applications for the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund (PWIF) in the past 5 years, with a breakdown by the time required to effect payment.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

A breakdown of the number of PWIF applications approved from 2016 to 2020 by the time required to effect payment is provided below:

Time required to effect payment upon receipt of all information and documents required for processing the applications by the Labour Department	No. of applications approved				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
4 weeks or less	2 373	2 500	1 624	2 360	2 353
More than 4 weeks to 6 weeks	55	107	45	125	72
More than 6 weeks to 8 weeks	1	-	20	39	3
More than 8 weeks to 10 weeks	-	33	-	-	-
Total	2 429	2 640	1 689	2 524	2 428

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)042

(Question Serial No. 0240)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please provide breakdowns of applications for payment under the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund (PWIF) processed in the past 5 years by industry and cause of application.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

A breakdown of PWIF applications processed from 2016 to 2020 by industry is at Annex 1. A breakdown of applications approved for ex gratia payment under PWIF over the same period by cause of application is at Annex 2.

**Breakdown of PWIF applications processed from 2016 to 2020
by industry**

Year	Industry	No. of applications processed
2016	Programming and broadcasting activities	548
	Food and beverage service activities	501
	Construction	473
	Import and export trade	311
	Retail trade	165
	Information technology service activities	88
	Financial service activities (except insurance and pension funding)	59
	Others	760
	Total	2 905
2017	Sports and other entertainment activities	553
	Retail trade	459
	Construction	329
	Food and beverage service activities	294
	Import and export trade	278
	Activities of amusement parks and theme parks	230
	Services to buildings and landscape care activities	79
	Others	658
	Total	2 880
2018	Food and beverage service activities	528
	Construction	282
	Retail trade	253
	Import and export trade	112
	Activities of amusement parks and theme parks	77
	Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	70
	Information technology service activities	52
	Others	527
	Total	1 901
2019	Construction	1 220
	Food and beverage service activities	470
	Retail trade	345
	Import and export trade	152
	Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	107
	Information technology service activities	73
	Real estate activities	45
	Others	453
Total	2 865	

Year	Industry	No. of applications processed
2020	Food and beverage service activities	931
	Construction	609
	Import and export trade	201
	Retail trade	164
	Other personal service activities	114
	Financial service activities (except insurance and pension funding)	77
	Wholesale	73
	Others	584
	Total	2 753

**Breakdown of applications approved for ex gratia payment under PWIF
from 2016 to 2020 by cause of application**

Year	Cause of application [#] (Item owed)	No. of applications approved* ^
2016	Wages	1 987
	Wages in lieu of notice	1 783
	Severance payment	634
	Pay for untaken annual leave and/or untaken statutory holidays	1 403
	Total	2 429
2017	Wages	2 460
	Wages in lieu of notice	1 826
	Severance payment	675
	Pay for untaken annual leave and/or untaken statutory holidays	1 315
	Total	2 640
2018	Wages	1 379
	Wages in lieu of notice	1 031
	Severance payment	355
	Pay for untaken annual leave and/or untaken statutory holidays	754
	Total	1 689
2019	Wages	2 335
	Wages in lieu of notice	1 235
	Severance payment	525
	Pay for untaken annual leave and/or untaken statutory holidays	1 032
	Total	2 524
2020	Wages	2 126
	Wages in lieu of notice	1 586
	Severance payment	399
	Pay for untaken annual leave and/or untaken statutory holidays	1 267
	Total	2 428

[#] An employee who is owed wages, wages in lieu of notice, severance payment, pay for untaken annual leave and/or untaken statutory holidays by the insolvent employer may apply for ex gratia payment under PWIF.

* The breakdown figures do not add up to the total as an application may involve more than 1 item owed.

[^] Including applications received in the same year or before.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)043

(Question Serial No. 0668)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please set out the numbers of complaints involving imported workers received by the Labour Department (LD) in the past 3 years, with breakdowns by industry and job title. Among them, what were the numbers of substantiated complaints, prosecutions taken out and convicted cases, as well as the penalties imposed?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

From 2018 to 2020, LD respectively received 39, 22 and 46 complaints involving imported workers under the Supplementary Labour Scheme (SLS), and the breakdowns by industry and job title are at Annexes 1 and 2. Over the same period, there were respectively 30, 9 and 8 substantiated complaints after investigation. The investigation of complaints received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of substantiated complaints within the year does not correspond to the number of complaints received in the same year.

In addition to investigations into the complaints received, LD safeguards the employment rights of imported workers through measures such as inspections. Where the investigation reveals that there is sufficient evidence to substantiate an employer having breached labour laws and the imported worker concerned agrees to act as prosecution witness, LD will instigate prosecution. From 2018 to 2020, LD took out prosecutions against a total of 4 employers engaging imported workers. Among them, 2 employers breaching the Employees' Compensation Ordinance were convicted, and fined \$8,000 and \$1,500 respectively.

**Number of complaints received involving imported workers
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020:
a breakdown by industry**

Industry	No. of complaints*		
	2018	2019	2020
1. Agriculture and Fishing	3	-	4
2. Manufacturing	-	3	4
3. Construction	4	3	10
4. Wholesale, Retail and Import/Export Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	1	3	6
5. Community, Social and Personal Services	31	13	22
Total	39	22	46

* The investigation of complaints received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of substantiated complaints within the year does not correspond to the number of complaints received in the same year.

**Number of complaints received involving imported workers
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of complaints*		
	2018	2019	2020
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	28	12	18
2. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	2	-	1
3. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/Bean Sprout Processing Worker	-	-	1
4. Others	9	10	26
Total	39	22	46

* The investigation of complaints received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of substantiated complaints within the year does not correspond to the number of complaints received in the same year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)044

(Question Serial No. 1902)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Department (LD) provides all job seekers with free employment service, including employment assistance to unemployed persons. The local unemployment rate in November 2020 to January 2021 rose to 7%, the highest in 17 years. With the employment situations in many industries under persistent pressure, the unemployment rate is expected to rise further. Would LD advise this Committee of:

- (a) the month-to-month comparison between Hong Kong's overall unemployment rate and the unemployment rates in the tourism industry and the retail, accommodation and food services industries since the last financial year;
- (b) the measures to be adopted by LD to address the increase in the number of unemployed persons, given that the unemployment rate is very likely to rise further;
- (c) the specific work plan and implementation timetable in respect of the provision of employment services and assistance to unemployed persons for the coming year, as well as the staff establishment and estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 69)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) Based on the findings of the General Household Survey conducted by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), the unemployment rates in the retail, accommodation and food services industries and the overall unemployment rates for the past 12 reference periods are set out at the Annex.
- (b)&(c) To relieve the worsening unemployment situation due to the epidemic and the anti-epidemic measures, the Government has earmarked \$6.6 billion under the Anti-

epidemic Fund in 2020-21 to create around 30 000 time-limited jobs in the public and private sectors within 2 years for people of different skill sets and academic qualifications. The relevant funding is outside the scope of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account. As at end February 2021, around 31 000 jobs have been created under the Job Creation Scheme. Among the jobs already created, around 18 000 jobs have been filled while the recruitment of around 13 000 remaining jobs is in progress or will commence shortly.

In view of the impact of the epidemic and the persistently high unemployment rate, the Government will further earmark \$6.6 billion to create around 30 000 additional time-limited jobs in 2021-22. Relevant government departments will liaise with the non-governmental organisations or relevant associations under their purview to formulate details of the additional jobs which will be announced in due course.

Moreover, the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) launched the first, second and third tranches of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme in October 2019, July 2020 and January 2021 respectively to support employees affected by economic downturn, enabling participating trainees to receive retraining of their own choices. The maximum amount of monthly allowance per trainee during the training period has substantially increased from \$4,000 to \$5,800 starting from May 2020. ERB will launch the fourth tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme in July 2021 for 6 months until the end of this year, enabling an additional 20 000 trainees to receive retraining. ERB will also continue to assist the unemployed and underemployed by providing around 140 000 places yearly through its regular training courses.

In respect of employment support, LD provides employment support for job seekers through its job centres, industry-based recruitment centres, online platforms, etc. It also implements dedicated employment services and employment programmes for job seekers with special needs (including the elderly, young people, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, etc.). At the same time, LD liaises with employers in various industries to canvass vacancies for job seekers with different educational backgrounds and working experience, and organises large-scale job fairs in different locations as well as industry-based and district-based job fairs at its recruitment centres and job centres respectively to expedite the dissemination of employment information, striving its best to help job seekers with different backgrounds secure employment.

In light of the deteriorating employment situation, LD has raised the ceiling of on-the-job training (OJT) allowance payable to employers under the Employment Programme for the Elderly and Middle-aged, the Youth Employment and Training Programme and the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme since September 2020, with a view to further encouraging employers to hire the elderly and middle-aged, young people and persons with disabilities and provide them with OJT. At the same time, LD has launched a pilot scheme to encourage eligible persons to complete OJT under the above employment programmes through the provision of a retention allowance, thereby stabilising employment. In addition, to enhance job matching, LD will strengthen its liaison with employers with recruitment

needs, and organise more thematic job fairs to help job seekers secure employment. In 2021-22, LD has a staff establishment of 208 Labour Officer Grade and 283 Clerical and other grade posts for providing the above employment services, and the estimated expenditure is \$566 million.

Unemployment rates in the retail, accommodation and food services industries and the overall unemployment rates for the past 12 reference periods

Reference Period	Industry ⁽¹⁾					
	Retail	Accommodation services ⁽²⁾	Food and beverage service activities	Retail, accommodation ⁽²⁾ and food services ⁽³⁾ (Combined)	Overall unemployment rate ⁽⁴⁾	Overall unemployment rate ⁽⁴⁾ (Seasonally adjusted)
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Nov 2019 to Jan 2020	4.8	3.7	6.1	5.2	3.1	3.4
Dec 2019 to Feb 2020	5.2	3.7	7.5	6.1	3.4	3.7
Jan to Mar 2020	5.6	5.0	8.6	6.8	4.2	4.2
Feb to Apr 2020	7.1	7.0	12.0	9.0	5.2	5.2
Mar to May 2020	7.6	9.0	14.8	10.6	6.0	5.9
Apr to Jun 2020	7.7	9.5	14.7	10.7	6.2	6.2
May to Jul 2020	8.1	9.0	14.6	10.8	6.3	6.1
Jun to Aug 2020	8.2	9.5	14.4	10.9	6.4	6.1
Jul to Sep 2020	9.3	10.1	15.2	11.7	6.7	6.4
Aug to Oct 2020	8.6	9.2	14.8	11.2	6.6	6.4
Sep to Nov 2020	7.8	8.8	13.1	10.1	6.3	6.3
Oct to Dec 2020	8.3	8.8	13.8	10.6	6.3	6.6
Nov 2020 to Jan 2021 [^]	8.9	9.3	14.7	11.3	6.5	7.0

Notes:

[^] Provisional figures.

- (1) The unemployment rate refers to the proportion of unemployed persons in the labour force.
- (2) The industry refers to the activity of the establishment in which the respondent last worked before unemployment.
- (3) Accommodation services cover hotels, guesthouses, boarding houses and other establishments providing short term accommodation.
- (4) The retail, accommodation and food services industries as a whole is generally referred to as the consumption- and tourism-related segment.

Source: General Household Survey, C&SD

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)045

(Question Serial No. 0313)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Government has launched the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme to invite enterprises to recruit local university graduates to work in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area. Every participating graduate receives a monthly salary of no less than \$18,000. An allowance is disbursed by the Government to the relevant enterprises according to the number of graduates employed. In this connection, please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number of enterprises from which applications have been received so far, the total number of job vacancies and their distribution by type of post;
- (b) the number of applications received via the Interactive Employment Service (iES) website of the Labour Department (LD) so far and the types of post which are more popular with the applicants;
- (c) the Government's estimated expenditure on the allowance and publicity and promotion for the whole Scheme;
- (d) the staff establishment and salary cost of the Secretariat set up by LD and the Innovation and Technology Bureau to handle applications from enterprises and disbursement of the allowance; and
- (e) whether the types of post of the vacancies offered are entirely determined by the enterprises in their applications or subject to the Government's design and proactive liaison.

Asked by: Hon LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) As at 28 February 2021, 204 enterprises have offered a total of 1 512 job vacancies, including 721 general posts and 791 innovation and technology posts, under the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme.
- (b) As at 28 February 2021, job seekers submitted a total of 1 011 job applications using the online job application function of the iES website of LD. The vacancies that received more job applications are as follows:

Title	No. of job applications
Management/Executive Trainee	221
Marketing Executive/Marketing Officer/ Assistant	199
Co-ordinator/Organising Officer	67
Personnel Officer	53
Manager/Manageress	37

The Scheme allows enterprises to conduct recruitment through different channels. Job seekers may submit job applications to the participating employers directly without using the iES website of LD. Therefore, the above number of online job applications submitted via the iES website of LD does not reflect the overall application situation under the Scheme.

- (c) To launch the Scheme, the Government allocated \$376 million from the Anti-epidemic Fund to cover an estimated expenditure of \$360 million on allowance for employers and an estimated expenditure of \$4 million on publicity and promotion. The relevant funding is outside the scope of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account.
- (d) The Scheme is implemented through internal staff deployment within the Government. As the staff concerned also undertake other duties, the manpower and expenditure involved cannot be separately identified.
- (e) The Government has proactively liaised with the business sector both before and after the launch of the Scheme and called on enterprises to participate in the Scheme and offer job vacancies of general posts and innovation and technology posts for application by graduates from different backgrounds. Enterprises may offer various types of job vacancies basing on their business needs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)046

(Question Serial No. 0041)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the employment programmes of the Labour Department (LD), the Government raised the amounts of allowances under the Employment Programme for the Elderly and Middle-aged (EPEM), the Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP) and the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme (WOPS) and introduced a retention allowance last year. Please advise this Committee of the numbers of participants and placements secured under the above programmes in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

No prior registration under EPEM (known as the Employment Programme for the Middle-aged before September 2018) is required for employees as relevant registration can be made by their employers after they have secured employment from vacancies placed with LD. In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 2 574, 3 061 and 2 260 placements eligible for joining EPEM.

YETP operates on the basis of programme year, running from September each year to August of the following year. In the past 3 programme years (i.e. the 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20 programme years), the numbers of trainees enrolled in YETP were 4 694, 4 572 and 3 418 respectively. Trainees may choose to attend pre-employment training courses, workplace attachment training, on-the-job training (OJT), etc. according to their own interests and needs. In the past 3 programme years, the numbers of trainees placed into OJT vacancies were 2 264, 2 004 and 1 435 respectively.

No prior registration under WOPS is required for employees as relevant registration can be made by their employers after they have secured employment in the jobs referred by the Selective Placement Division of LD. In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 796, 942 and 809 placements recorded under WOPS.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)047

(Question Serial No. 0042)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Department (LD) launched a pilot programme in conjunction with non-governmental organisations in November 2020 to provide employment services for ethnic minority (EM) job seekers through a case management approach. Please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the manpower arrangement of LD for handling the programme;
- (b) the numbers of applications for assistance, cases being handled and successful cases under the programme to date.

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) To implement the pilot programme i.e. the Racial Diversity Employment Programme, LD created 3 additional posts for 4 years starting from 2019-20.
- (b) From 1 November 2020 to the end of February 2021, a total of 260 EM job seekers participated in the Racial Diversity Employment Programme and 28 placements were recorded. Job seekers who have participated in the programme are currently receiving employment services or post-placement follow-up services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)048

(Question Serial No. 0043)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the situation of job seekers with disabilities, data showed that in the past 2 years, there were differences ranging from 20% to 30% between the number of job seekers with disabilities registering with the Labour Department (LD) and the actual number of placements. Please advise this Committee:

- (a) whether the above differences represent the numbers of placements where job seekers failed to get a job or had not yet been employed?
- (b) of the main reason for job seekers with disabilities failing to get a job among the cases with assistance rendered by LD?
- (c) of the number of cases where job seekers were in the end not employed and decided to give up?

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) In 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 2 766 and 2 478 job seekers with disabilities registering with the Selective Placement Division (SPD) of LD for employment services. Over the same period, SPD recorded respectively 2 213 and 1 741 placements for job seekers with disabilities. The number of job seekers with disabilities registered in a particular year does not match exactly those placements recorded in that year. The difference between the two figures is not equivalent to the number of persons who cannot secure placements. For example, some job seekers only registered for employment services near year end and their job search were still in progress. Moreover, some job seekers suspend the job search after registering with SPD due to various reasons, and it does not mean that they fail to get a job.

- (b) As is the case with able-bodied job seekers, employers choose not to engage a particular job seeker with disabilities mainly because there are other more suitable candidates or the job seeker's experience and skills do not meet the requirements.
- (c) Of the 2 766 and 2 478 job seekers with disabilities registering with SPD for employment services in 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 377 and 339 who ceased looking for jobs. Among them, 37 and 34 respectively were assessed as unfit for open employment, while 340 and 305 job seekers ceased looking for jobs to pursue further studies and for health and other personal reasons.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)049

(Question Serial No. 0066)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Labour Relations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the voluntary conciliation service rendered by the Labour Department (LD), would the Government advise this Committee:

- (a) of the number of labour disputes and claims for which conciliation service was not rendered in 2020 because the employers concerned were insolvent or could not be reached;
- (b) of the number of labour disputes and claims that were unresolved through conciliation;
- (c) whether any new cases of labour disputes were received and handled during the service suspension period when LD's service hours were shortened as result of the pandemic in 2020? If yes, what was the number of new labour disputes handled during that period? Was there any delay in the handling of such cases? If yes, what was the number of cases delayed? What was the number of days of delay for each case?

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) In 2020, the total number of labour disputes and claims for which conciliation service was not rendered by LD because the employers concerned were insolvent or could not be reached was 490.
- (b) In 2020, the total number of labour disputes and claims that were unresolved through conciliation by LD was 2 682.
- (c) The counter services of LD were suspended intermittently owing to the special work arrangements for government employees in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. During

those periods, the Labour Relations Division continued to handle duties like urgent cases and labour disputes, etc. In 2020, LD handled a total of 85 labour disputes, an increase of 12% over 2019. LD does not keep the breakdowns mentioned in the question.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)050

(Question Serial No. 0067)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the processing of employees' compensation (EC) claims in the past 3 years, would the Government advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number of claims with a breakdown by industry;
- (b) the number of unsettled claims in each year, with a breakdown by industry in which the employee lodging the claim was engaged;
- (c) the time taken to process a claim? Please list the figures for within 1 year, 1 to 2 years, 2 to 3 years and 3 years or above.

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) From 2018 to 2020, the number of EC claims reported under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (ECO) and received by the Labour Department (LD) in each year is at Annex 1.

If the work injury sick leave of an employee does not exceed 3 days and no permanent incapacity is involved, the employer should make direct payment of compensation to the employee in accordance with ECO. LD does not keep a breakdown of this type of cases by industry. As for compensation claims involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days as a result of work injuries, a breakdown by industry is at Annex 2.

- (b) Of the compensation claims involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days as a result of work injuries in each year from 2018 to 2020, the number of compensation

claims which were not settled in the same respective year with a breakdown by industry is at Annex 3.

- (c) Of the compensation claims involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days as a result of work injuries in each year from 2018 to 2020, the number of compensation claims settled with a breakdown by time required for settlement is at Annex 4. The processing time for each claim is affected by various factors such as the duration of medical treatment and rehabilitation required for the employee's injury, whether the claim involves disputes that require mediation or adjudication by the court, etc.

**Number of EC claims
reported under ECO and received by LD from 2018 to 2020**

Duration of incapacitation of employees	2018	2019	2020
Not more than 3 days	14 789	14 641	10 269
More than 3 days*	36 788	33 780	28 487
Total	51 577	48 421	38 756

* Figures include fatal cases.

**Number of compensation claims
involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days
as a result of work injuries from 2018 to 2020
with a breakdown by industry**

Industry	2018	2019	2020
Public Administration, Social and Personal Services	7 708	7 474	6 323
Finance and Insurance, Real Estate, Professional and Business Services	7 367	6 781	6 415
Food and Beverage Services	5 660	5 040	3 798
Import/Export, Wholesale and Retail Trades, Accommodation Services	4 941	4 387	3 844
Transportation, Storage, Postal and Courier Services, Information and Communications	4 484	4 386	2 692
Construction	3 882	3 223	2 897
Manufacturing	1 834	1 599	1 415
Others	912	890	1 103
Total	36 788	33 780	28 487

**Number of compensation claims
involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days
as a result of work injuries from 2018 to 2020 which were not settled
in the same respective year with a breakdown by industry**

Industry	2018	2019	2020
Public Administration, Social and Personal Services	3 228	3 058	3 339
Finance and Insurance, Real Estate, Professional and Business Services	3 088	2 668	3 220
Food and Beverage Services	1 918	1 590	1 618
Import/Export, Wholesale and Retail Trades, Accommodation Services	1 705	1 452	1 731
Transportation, Storage, Postal and Courier Services, Information and Communications	1 943	1 740	1 344
Construction	2 619	2 103	2 164
Manufacturing	756	619	710
Others	420	461	669
Total	15 677	13 691	14 795

**Number of settled compensation claims
involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days
as a result of work injuries from 2018 to 2020
with a breakdown by time required for settlement**

Time required for settlement of compensation claims	No. of compensation claims settled [^]		
	2018	2019	2020
Below 365 days	30 497	29 579	19 854
365 to below 730 days	4 697	4 656	5 045
730 to below 1 095 days	1 353	1 425	1 472
1 095 days or above	620	713	748
Total	37 167	36 373	27 119

[^] The number of compensation claims settled includes compensation claims reported to LD under ECO in or before the respective settlement year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)051****(Question Serial No. 0108)**Head: (90) Labour DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (2) Employment ServicesControlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and WelfareQuestion:

The Labour Department (LD) provides free employment service to all job seekers. In this connection, would the Government provide the number of job vacancies received in each of the past 3 years, with a breakdown by occupation, and among them, the respective numbers of full-time and part-time job vacancies?

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 13)Reply:

The number of job vacancies received by LD from the private sector in 2018, 2019 and 2020, with a breakdown by occupation, is provided below:

Occupation	No. of job vacancies		
	2018	2019	2020
Managers and administrators	20 302	20 320	12 125
Professionals	80 705	60 982	48 550
Associate professionals	223 935	217 028	154 378
Clerical support workers	268 058	227 363	97 357
Service workers	297 748	256 370	110 448
Shop sales workers	159 477	128 675	42 606
Agricultural and fishery workers	4 446	3 669	2 908
Craft and related workers	75 490	65 334	45 449
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	51 481	43 593	23 839
Elementary occupations	286 062	265 153	148 514
Others	690	439	123
Total	1 468 394	1 288 926	686 297

Breakdowns of the full-time and part-time job vacancies received are provided below:

Occupation	No. of full-time job vacancies		
	2018	2019	2020
Managers and administrators	20 116	20 150	11 924
Professionals	77 289	58 246	44 513
Associate professionals	181 163	177 742	134 381
Clerical support workers	237 491	201 115	85 286
Service workers	228 402	195 629	85 274
Shop sales workers	113 751	92 526	30 460
Agricultural and fishery workers	3 730	3 242	2 470
Craft and related workers	72 996	63 536	44 384
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	49 391	41 653	22 658
Elementary occupations	223 467	207 489	115 626
Others	470	370	92
Total	1 208 266	1 061 698	577 068

Occupation	No. of part-time job vacancies		
	2018	2019	2020
Managers and administrators	186	170	201
Professionals	3 416	2 736	4 037
Associate professionals	42 772	39 286	19 997
Clerical support workers	30 567	26 248	12 071
Service workers	69 346	60 741	25 174
Shop sales workers	45 726	36 149	12 146
Agricultural and fishery workers	716	427	438
Craft and related workers	2 494	1 798	1 065
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	2 090	1 940	1 181
Elementary occupations	62 595	57 664	32 888
Others	220	69	31
Total	260 128	227 228	109 229

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)052

(Question Serial No. 0109)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the job fairs staged by the Labour Department (LD), please advise this Committee:

- (a) of the numbers of job fairs staged by LD, job vacancies provided (and their industries, occupations and salaries), and placements secured in each of the past 3 years;
- (b) whether LD has statistics on the average retention period of the placements secured;
- (c) whether LD has studied the retention period of the persons who have secured placements in the job fairs. If not, will it consider allocating resources to conduct a study so as to enhance the effectiveness of the job fairs?

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, LD staged respectively 958, 960 and 586 district-based job fairs as well as 666, 653 and 354 industry-based job fairs at its job centres and industry-based recruitment centres. For district-based job fairs, 3 227, 3 323 and 1 873 placements were recorded in 2018, 2019 and 2020 respectively, whilst for industry-based job fairs, 2 976, 2 839 and 1 039 placements were recorded respectively over the same period.

Moreover, LD staged 19, 18 and 5 large-scale job fairs (2 of the 5 large-scale job fairs staged in 2020 were on-line job fairs) in 2018, 2019 and 2020, and recorded 2 464, 1 647 and 537 placements respectively.

Breakdowns of the numbers of job vacancies provided in the above job fairs by industry, occupation and salary are at the Annex.

- (b) LD does not keep the average retention period of the placements of the above job fairs.
- (c) The aim of staging job fairs is to expedite the dissemination of employment information and enhance the efficiency of recruitment and job search. How long an employee stays in employment mainly depends on the employment terms and the working conditions after starting employment. The channel of recruitment is not a key factor. Therefore, LD has not studied the retention period of the placements recorded in the above job fairs. However, LD is committed to reviewing and enhancing the effectiveness of job fairs through various means, including distributing questionnaires to participating organisations and job seekers of individual thematic job fairs so as to understand the needs and views of different groups; and offering advice to employers participating in job fairs so as to assist them in providing job vacancies which are more appealing to job seekers, having regard to the labour market situation, etc.

**Breakdowns of job vacancies provided in job fairs staged by LD from 2018 to 2020
by industry, occupation and salary**

(i) District-based job fairs*

(a) By industry

Industry	No. of job vacancies (2020)
Manufacturing	5 524
Construction	1 769
Wholesale, retail and import/export trades	17 587
Restaurants and hotels	14 969
Transport, storage and communications	12 101
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	21 306
Community, social and personal services	9 248
Others	140
Total	82 644

(b) By occupation

Occupation	No. of job vacancies (2020)
Managers and administrators	1 820
Professionals	228
Associate professionals	5 280
Clerical support workers	10 158
Service workers	17 995
Shop sales workers	10 733
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	118
Craft and related workers	4 121
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	7 007
Elementary occupations	25 176
Others	8
Total	82 644

(c) By salary

Monthly salary	No. of job vacancies (2020)
Below \$6,000	2 627
\$6,000-below \$8,000	6 097
\$8,000-below \$10,000	7 611
\$10,000-below \$12,000	10 240
\$12,000-below \$14,000	18 882
\$14,000-below \$16,000	14 652
\$16,000-below \$18,000	11 869
\$18,000 or above	10 666
Total	82 644

* In 2018 and 2019, LD's district-based job fairs provided 224 362 and 229 032 job vacancies respectively. LD does not keep breakdowns by industry, occupation and salary for these 2 years.

(ii) Industry-based job fairs

(a) By industry

Industry	No. of job vacancies		
	2018	2019	2020
Catering	87 451	86 028	16 851
Retail	72 111	71 585	17 580
Construction	13 642	11 808	5 754
Total	173 204	169 421	40 185

(b) By occupation@

Occupation	No. of job vacancies (2020)
Managers and administrators	1 428
Professionals	103
Associate professionals	1 179
Clerical support workers	4 635
Service workers	11 829
Shop sales workers	11 447
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	59
Craft and related workers	4 238
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	660
Elementary occupations	4 604
Others	3
Total	40 185

@ LD does not keep breakdowns by occupation for 2018 and 2019.

(c) By salary

Monthly salary	No. of job vacancies		
	2018	2019	2020
Below \$6,000	14 665	15 113	3 043
\$6,000-below \$8,000	16 508	14 842	3 318
\$8,000-below \$10,000	18 386	15 344	3 056
\$10,000-below \$12,000	40 059	24 896	4 371
\$12,000-below \$14,000	39 512	39 819	10 908
\$14,000-below \$16,000	24 531	32 939	6 570
\$16,000-below \$18,000	10 657	14 058	3 988
\$18,000 or above	8 886	12 410	4 931
Total	173 204	169 421	40 185

(iii) Large-scale and on-line job fairs

(a) By industry

Industry	No. of job vacancies (full-time and part-time)		
	2018	2019	2020
Manufacturing	1 316	394	368
Construction	782	460	403
Wholesale, Retail and Import/Export Trades	9 130	8 083	339
Restaurants and Hotels	11 956	9 771	2 352
Transport, Storage and Communications	2 204	1 424	536
Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	7 233	7 976	3 446
Community, Social and Personal Services	1 484	1 839	531
Others	2 931	956	700
Total	37 036	30 903	8 675

(b) By occupation

Occupation	No. of job vacancies (full-time and part-time)		
	2018	2019	2020
Managers and administrators	780	729	295
Professionals	279	265	20
Associate professionals	3 480	3 027	820
Clerical support workers	4 504	3 678	947
Service workers	9 763	8 077	2 303
Shop sales workers	6 064	5 643	1 335
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	48	43	9
Craft and related workers	1 215	986	300
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	1 052	788	343
Elementary occupations	9 843	7 667	2 303
Others	8	0	0
Total	37 036	30 903	8 675

(c) By salary

Monthly salary	No. of job vacancies (full-time)		
	2018	2019	2020
Below \$6,000	162	10	25
\$6,000-below \$8,000	932	201	155
\$8,000-below \$10,000	3 290	1 516	298
\$10,000-below \$12,000	7 927	4 567	1 089
\$12,000-below \$14,000	8 004	6 370	1 719
\$14,000-below \$16,000	4 252	4 344	1 422
\$16,000-below \$18,000	1 767	2 818	1 148
\$18,000 or above	1 905	2 071	1 069
Total#	28 239	21 897	6 925

In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 8 797, 9 006 and 1 750 part-time job vacancies.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)053

(Question Serial No. 0110)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Department (LD) provides free employment service to all job seekers. In this connection, would the Government set out the number of job vacancies within the following ranges for the past 3 years, with breakdowns by full-time and part-time employment:

- (a) starting monthly wage at below \$5,000, \$5,001-\$10,000, \$10,001-\$15,000, \$15,001-\$20,000, \$20,001-\$25,000, \$25,001 or above;
- (b) hourly wage at \$37.5, \$37.5-\$47, \$48-\$57, \$58-\$67, \$68-\$77, \$78-\$87, \$88-\$98, \$99 or above?

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a)&(b) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, LD received 1 468 394, 1 288 926 and 686 297 job vacancies respectively from the private sector. Breakdowns of these job vacancies by full-time and part-time employment, monthly-rated and hourly-rated wage payment mode as well as wage level are provided at the Annex.

Job vacancies received by LD from the private sector in 2018, 2019 and 2020**(i) Breakdowns of monthly-rated job vacancies by wage level**

Monthly wage	No. of full-time job vacancies		
	2018	2019	2020
Below \$5,000	173	93	53
\$5,000 - below \$10,000	98 765	64 096	38 191
\$10,000 - below \$15,000	678 221	554 349	262 959
\$15,000 - below \$20,000	268 894	282 124	162 282
\$20,000 - below \$25,000	55 129	66 407	46 818
\$25,000 or above	20 596	26 051	24 607
Total	1 121 778	993 120	534 910

Monthly wage	No. of part-time job vacancies		
	2018	2019	2020
Below \$5,000	6 728	5 005	3 183
\$5,000 - below \$10,000	12 229	12 314	6 773
\$10,000 - below \$15,000	2 014	1 777	892
\$15,000 - below \$20,000	879	880	465
\$20,000 - below \$25,000	118	308	1 805
\$25,000 or above	52	101	173
Total	22 020	20 385	13 291

(ii) Breakdowns of hourly-rated job vacancies by wage level

Hourly wage	No. of full-time job vacancies		
	2018	2019	2020
Below \$37.6	7 626	3 921	1 034
\$37.6 - below \$48	17 852	13 531	10 364
\$48 - below \$58	13 793	13 633	9 716
\$58 - below \$68	4 370	4 198	2 001
\$68 - below \$78	1 096	1 213	613
\$78 - below \$88	560	300	164
\$88 - below \$99	296	130	85
\$99 or above	326	323	320
Total	45 919	37 249	24 297

Hourly wage	No. of part-time job vacancies		
	2018	2019	2020
Below \$37.6	10 900	4 419	1 084
\$37.6 - below \$48	83 635	55 125	21 612
\$48 - below \$58	64 370	64 042	29 450
\$58 - below \$68	24 585	27 997	11 997
\$68 - below \$78	9 228	9 843	4 682
\$78 - below \$88	6 860	6 049	3 968
\$88 - below \$99	1 307	1 485	1 205
\$99 or above	15 918	16 321	9 332
Total	216 803	185 281	83 330

Note:

The Statutory Minimum Wage rate has been raised to \$37.5 since 1 May 2019.

In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 61 874, 52 891 and 30 469 job vacancies with wage payment modes (such as daily-rated, weekly-rated, piece-rated, etc.) that were other than monthly-rated and hourly-rated.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)054

(Question Serial No. 0125)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the Supplementary Labour Scheme (SLS), would the Government advise this Committee of:

- (a) the numbers of applications received and approved by the Labour Department (LD) under SLS and of workers involved in the past 3 years, with breakdowns by year, industry, job title and wage level;
- (b) the number of SLS applications referred by LD to the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) and the industries and job titles involved in the past 3 years; and
- (c) the estimated staff establishment and expenditure involved for this year?

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) The numbers of applications received and approved by LD under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020 are at Annex 1. Breakdowns of the numbers of imported workers applied for and approved by industry, job title and monthly wage are at Annexes 2 to 6.
- (b) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, LD referred 589, 549 and 590 SLS applications respectively to ERB for consideration of organising tailor-made training courses. The applied posts involved were mainly Care Worker (Elderly Service/Disabled Service) and Farm Worker (Livestock/Poultry).
- (c) SLS is primarily administered by the Supplementary Labour Division (SLD) of LD. In 2021-22, the estimated general expenses of SLD are \$480,000 (excluding staff cost) and

its staff establishment comprises 36 Labour Officer Grade, 16 Clerical Grade and 1 Workman II posts.

**Number of applications received and approved
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020**

	2018	2019	2020
No. of applications*	1 217	1 097	1 112
No. of imported workers applied for*	5 095	4 721	4 204
No. of applications approved*	907	1 036	904
No. of imported workers approved*	3 225	3 378	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the numbers of applications approved and imported workers approved within the year do not correspond to the numbers of applications received and imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020:
a breakdown by industry**

Industry	No. of imported workers applied for*			No. of imported workers approved*		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1. Agriculture and Fishing	886	970	1 072	705	797	780
2. Manufacturing	390	485	274	158	176	192
3. Construction	351	561	46	589	172	218
4. Wholesale, Retail and Import/Export Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	483	448	290	197	270	228
5. Transport, Storage and Communications	68	131	38	24	9	16
6. Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	168	73	8	19	28	18
7. Community, Social and Personal Services	2 749	2 053	2 476	1 533	1 926	1 671
Total	5 095	4 721	4 204	3 225	3 378	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	2 108	1 409
2. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	553	448
3. Gardening Worker	315	247
4. Cook	302	155
5. Machine Operator	165	57
6. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	112	69
7. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	87	79
8. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	79	38
9. Waste Handling Worker	72	19
10. Others	1 302	704
Total	5 095	3 225

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2019:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	1 707	1 718
2. Gardening Worker	483	353
3. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	480	435
4. Cook	291	170
5. Machine Operator	240	83
6. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	105	86
7. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	102	73
8. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	45	37
9. Waste Handling Worker	43	45
10. Others	1 225	378
Total	4 721	3 378

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2020:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	2 199	1 511
2. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	625	474
3. Gardening Worker	437	305
4. Cook	207	158
5. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	117	90
6. Machine Operator	107	75
7. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	81	73
8. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	69	50
9. Waste Handling Worker	66	23
10. Others	296	364
Total	4 204	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020:
a breakdown by monthly wage**

Monthly wage	No. of imported workers applied for*			No. of imported workers approved*		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1. \$8,000 or below	4	3	-	-	-	-
2. Above \$8,000-\$10,000	778	197	13	453	194	34
3. Above \$10,000-\$12,000	397	544	735	607	374	513
4. Above \$12,000-\$14,000	2 603	2 378	2 868	1 278	2 211	1 981
5. Above \$14,000-\$16,000	280	225	127	41	68	69
6. Above \$16,000-\$18,000	337	468	231	125	190	153
7. Above \$18,000-\$20,000	205	179	70	87	60	63
8. Above \$20,000	491	727	160	634	281	310
Total	5 095	4 721	4 204	3 225	3 378	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)055

(Question Serial No. 0132)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP), would the Government provide the following information:

- (a) the manpower and expenditure for implementing YETP in the past 3 years;
- (b) the number of trainees enrolled under YETP and the percentage of those who completed the courses in the past 3 years, with breakdowns by age, gender, educational attainment and type of training;
- (c) the number of trainees who received pre-employment training and were placed into on-the-job training (OJT) vacancies in the past 3 years, with breakdowns by industry, occupational group and wage level;
- (d) the number of training courses run by training bodies and the amount of funding allocated in the past 3 years;
- (e) the number of trainees who were granted OJT allowance, pre-employment training allowance, workplace attachment training allowance, off-the-job vocational training allowance and reimbursement of examination fees in the past 3 years and the amount involved;
- (f) the number of employers who were granted OJT allowance in the past 3 years and the amount involved;
- (g) the survey findings on the employment position of trainees for last year and the year before?

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 12)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) In the 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 financial years, the Labour Department (LD) had respectively 65, 67 and 69 posts in its staff establishment for the administration, promotion and monitoring of the service provision of YETP. The expenditures for implementing YETP in these years were \$83.3 million, \$79.5 million and \$85.8 million respectively.
- (b) Breakdowns of the number of trainees enrolled by age, gender and educational attainment and of trainees enrolled in pre-employment training courses by type of training in the past 3 programme years of YETP (running from September each year to August of the following year) are at Annex 1. LD does not keep information on the percentage of trainees who completed pre-employment training courses.
- (c) Breakdowns of the number of trainees placed into OJT vacancies in the past 3 programme years by industry, occupational group and wage level are at Annex 2. A breakdown of the number of trainees enrolled in pre-employment training courses by type of training is at Annex 1.
- (d) The number of training courses run by training bodies and the amount of funding allocated in the past 3 programme years are at Annex 3.
- (e)&(f) The amount of OJT allowance granted to employers, the numbers of employers and placements involved in the past 3 financial years, as well as the amount of pre-employment training allowance, workplace attachment training allowance, off-the-job vocational training allowance and reimbursement of examination fees granted to trainees and the number of trainees involved in the same period are at Annex 4.
- (g) LD conducts trainee development surveys every year on trainees who have enrolled under YETP and completed the 12-month support services. The survey findings for the 2018/19 programme year and 2019/20 programme year showed that 69.8% and 77.1% of the trainees were in employment at the time of survey respectively.

**Breakdowns of the number of trainees enrolled
by age, gender and educational attainment and
of trainees enrolled in pre-employment training courses by type of training
in the 2017/18 to 2019/20 programme years of YETP**

(i) By age, gender and educational attainment

	2017/18 Programme year	2018/19 Programme year	2019/20 Programme year
1. No. of trainees enrolled	4 694	4 572	3 418
2. Age			
- 15-below 18	672	673	413
- 18-below 21	1 801	1 765	1 361
- 21-below 25	2 221	2 134	1 644
3. Gender			
- Male	2 995	2 968	1 937
- Female	1 699	1 604	1 481
4. Educational attainment			
- Below Secondary 3	171	195	166
- Secondary 3	537	538	365
- Secondary 4-5	655	595	422
- Secondary 6-7	2 089	2 285	1 463
- Associate degree	155	126	144
- Diploma	848	664	742
- Others (i.e. secondary school education or equivalent attained in other places)	239	169	116

(ii) Trainees enrolled in pre-employment training courses by type of training

Type of training	No. of trainees enrolled in pre-employment training courses		
	2017/18 Programme year	2018/19 Programme year	2019/20 Programme year
Technical and craftsmanship	1 174	1 092	616
Job-search, interpersonal skills, discipline and motivation	399	274	327
Catering	324	272	213
Information technology and design	136	186	89
Hairdressing, beauty culture and fitness	50	65	108
Customer service and salesmanship	72	48	67
Clerical	55	24	40
Tourism and hotel	12	12	-
Others	176	246	227
Total	2 398	2 219	1 687

Note: YETP operates on the basis of programme year, running from September each year to August of the following year.

**Breakdowns of the number of trainees placed into OJT vacancies
in the 2017/18 to 2019/20 programme years of YETP
by industry, occupational group and wage level**

(i) By industry

Industry	No. of trainees placed into OJT vacancies		
	2017/18 Programme year	2018/19 Programme year	2019/20 Programme year
Construction	1 018	955	763
Community, social and personal services	360	322	237
Government sector	202	158	117
Transport, storage and communications	216	180	116
Wholesale, retail and import/export trades, restaurants and hotels	167	150	77
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	206	163	76
Manufacturing	33	41	19
Others	62	35	30
Total	2 264	2 004	1 435

(ii) By occupation

Occupational group	No. of trainees placed into OJT vacancies		
	2017/18 Programme year	2018/19 Programme year	2019/20 Programme year
Craft and related workers	1 404	1 293	998
Clerical support workers	299	213	148
Associate professionals	165	115	126
Service workers	178	201	91
Sales workers	171	150	64
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	14	9	2
Elementary occupations	15	16	1
Others	18	7	5
Total	2 264	2 004	1 435

(iii) By wage level

Wage level	No. of trainees placed into OJT vacancies		
	2017/18 Programme year	2018/19 Programme year*	2019/20 Programme year
Below \$8,000	52	67	16
\$8,000-below \$10,000	1 192	799	473
\$10,000-below \$12,000	717	689	562
\$12,000-below \$14,000	225	304	216
\$14,000 or above	78	145	168
Total	2 264	2 004	1 435

Note: YETP operates on the basis of programme year, running from September each year to August of the following year.

* Since the 2018/19 programme year, the scope of YETP has been expanded to cover part-time OJT posts.

**Number of training courses run by training bodies
and amount of funding allocated
in the 2017/18 to 2019/20 programme years of YETP**

Item	2017/18 Programme year	2018/19 Programme year	2019/20 Programme year (as at February 2021)
No. of training courses	159	155	107
Amount of funding allocated	\$7.26 million	\$7.24 million	\$7.69 million

Note: YETP operates on the basis of programme year, running from September each year to August of the following year.

**Amount of OJT allowance granted to employers,
numbers of employers and placements involved and
amount of various allowances granted to trainees and number of trainees involved
under YETP in the 2017-18 to 2019-20 financial years**

(i) Amount of OJT allowance granted to employers and numbers of employers and placements involved

Item	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Amount of OJT allowance	\$50 million	\$47.18 million	\$54.85 million
No. of employers	618	573	499
No. of placements	2 254	1 973	1 685

(ii) Various allowances granted to trainees and number of trainees involved

Item	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Pre-employment training allowance	\$750,000	\$690,000	\$500,000
Workplace attachment training allowance	\$520,000	\$650,000	\$780,000
Off-the-job vocational training allowance and reimbursement of examination fees	\$210,000	\$120,000	\$70,000
No. of trainees	1 184	818	617

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)056

(Question Serial No. 0133)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding employees' compensation, would the Government advise this Committee of the fines imposed by the court on employers for every case of industrial fatalities in the past 3 years? Please provide a breakdown by industry in which the deceased employees were engaged.

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

The details of penalties on industrial fatality cases that occurred in the past 3 years (2018-2020) are provided at Annex.

Cases of industrial fatalities handled by the court in the past 3 years (2018-2020)

Industry	Case	Amount of fines imposed on the duty holders concerned (including employers)
Construction	1.	A fine of \$6,000 to \$10,000 for each summons (3 in total), making a total fine of \$26,000
	2.	Acquitted after trial
	3.	Acquitted after trial
	4.	Acquitted after trial
	5.	A fine of \$4,500 to \$30,000 for each summons (5 in total), making a total fine of \$84,000
	6.	1 defendant company was wound up with the summons withdrawn by the prosecution; the judicial proceedings with respect to the remaining defendant of the same case are in progress
	7.	A fine of \$10,000 to \$44,000 for each summons (4 in total), making a total fine of \$116,000
	8.	A fine of \$30,000 to \$220,000 for each summons (3 in total), making a total fine of \$310,000
	9.	Acquitted after trial
	10.	A fine of \$4,000 to \$30,000 for each summons (15 in total), making a total fine of \$187,000
	11.	Acquitted after trial
	12.	2 summonses with a fine of \$16,000 and \$90,000 respectively, making a total fine of \$106,000
	13.	A fine of \$6,000 to \$35,000 for each summons (8 in total), making a total fine of \$197,000
	14.	A fine of \$5,000 to \$18,000 for each summons (12 in total), making a total fine of \$190,000
	15.	1 summons with a fine of \$35,000
	16.	A fine of \$20,000 to \$60,000 for each summons (4 in total), making a total fine of \$176,000
	17.	Acquitted after trial
	18.	A fine of \$28,000 to \$48,000 for each summons (3 in total), making a total fine of \$108,000
	19.	A fine of \$3,000 to \$30,000 for each summons (6 in total), making a total fine of \$72,500
	20.	A fine of \$35,000 to \$80,000 for each summons (9 in total), making a total fine of \$455,000
	21.	A fine of \$20,000 to \$45,000 for each summons (7 in total), making a total fine of \$240,000

	22.	For 1 defendant, a fine of \$6,000 to \$30,000 for each summons (4 in total), making a total fine of \$76,000; the judicial proceedings with respect to the other 2 defendants of the same case are in progress
	23.	For 1 defendant, a fine of \$3,000 to \$25,000 for each summons (5 in total), making a total fine of \$62,000; the judicial proceedings with respect to the other 2 defendants of the same case are in progress
	24.	A fine of \$8,000 to \$20,000 for each summons (15 in total), making a total fine of \$174,000
	25.	1 summons with a fine of \$50,000
Transportation, storage, postal and courier services	1.	2 summonses with a fine of \$35,000 each, making a total fine of \$70,000
	2.	A fine of \$16,000 to \$60,000 for each summons (5 in total), making a total fine of \$196,000
	3.	A fine of \$7,000 to \$28,000 for each summons (4 in total), making a total fine of \$72,000
	4.	2 summonses with a fine of \$45,000 each, making a total fine of \$90,000
	5.	A fine of \$20,000 to \$30,000 for each summons (4 in total), making a total fine of \$98,000
	6.	2 summonses with a fine of \$20,000 and \$40,000 respectively, making a total fine of \$60,000
Manufacturing	1.	Acquitted after trial
Electricity, gas and waste management	1.	For 2 defendants, a fine of \$5,000 to \$40,000 for each summons (6 in total), making a total fine of \$95,000; the judicial proceedings with respect to the remaining defendant of the same case are in progress
Public administration, and social and personal services	1.	2 summonses with a fine of \$10,000 and \$35,000 respectively, making a total fine of \$45,000

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)057

(Question Serial No. 0134)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please advise this Committee of the number of able-bodied job seekers engaged through the referral of the Labour Department (LD) in the past 5 years, with breakdowns by gender, age, industry, occupation and monthly earnings.

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

In 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020, LD recorded 149 794, 154 222, 136 079, 111 568 and 126 785 placements for able-bodied job seekers respectively. Of these, 137 286, 144 377, 128 292, 103 467 and 121 912 placements were made through job seekers' direct application to employers who advertised vacancies via LD, and the figures were obtained through LD's periodic sample surveys with employers. As the sample surveys do not involve detailed personal particulars of job seekers who secured placements through direct application, LD does not have breakdowns of these placements. Moreover, care should be taken in comparing the 2020 placement figures with those in previous years owing to changes in parameters of the sample survey. Breakdowns of placements for able-bodied job seekers secured through LD's referral by gender, age, industry, occupation and monthly earnings are at the Annex.

**Breakdowns of placements for able-bodied job seekers
secured through LD's referral from 2016 to 2020
by gender, age, industry, occupation and monthly earnings**

(i) By gender

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Male	4 961	4 059	3 378	3 576	2 138
Female	7 547	5 786	4 409	4 525	2 735
Total	12 508	9 845	7 787	8 101	4 873

(ii) By age

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
15-below 20	1 255	809	525	527	123
20-below 30	5 224	3 792	2 426	2 025	963
30-below 40	1 756	1 469	1 267	1 301	677
40-below 50	2 045	1 722	1 525	1 621	1 067
50-below 60	1 881	1 680	1 600	1 905	1 409
60 or above	347	373	444	722	634
Total	12 508	9 845	7 787	8 101	4 873

(iii) By industry

Industry	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Manufacturing	724	498	468	639	334
Construction	442	390	206	304	226
Wholesale, retail and import/export trades	5 420	4 199	2 909	2 680	1 446
Restaurants and hotels	1 495	1 348	1 249	1 267	561
Transport, storage and communications	588	492	469	388	280
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	1 641	1 176	1 047	1 277	982
Community, social and personal services	2 190	1 729	1 428	1 507	1 005
Others (including government sector)	8	13	11	39	39
Total	12 508	9 845	7 787	8 101	4 873

(iv) By occupation

Occupation	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Managers and administrators	94	76	37	62	50
Professionals and associate professionals	643	474	392	442	373
Clerical support workers	2 187	1 727	1 499	1 569	958
Service workers	2 215	1 809	1 634	1 627	946
Shop sales workers	4 194	3 148	2 008	1 907	790
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	24	13	17	37	83
Craft and related workers	319	365	252	290	176
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	235	186	197	221	140
Elementary occupations	2 524	2 002	1 699	1 946	1 356
Others	73	45	52	-	1
Total	12 508	9 845	7 787	8 101	4 873

(v) By monthly earnings

Monthly earnings	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Below \$6,000	1 239	903	817	842	394
\$6,000-below \$8,000	1 582	1 206	724	587	259
\$8,000-below \$10,000	2 513	1 630	1 010	1 026	747
\$10,000-below \$12,000	3 630	2 657	1 763	1 399	751
\$12,000-below \$14,000	2 209	2 064	1 717	1 788	1 269
\$14,000-below \$16,000	807	753	994	1 226	635
\$16,000-below \$18,000	286	339	441	742	430
\$18,000 or above	242	293	321	491	388
Total	12 508	9 845	7 787	8 101	4 873

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)058

(Question Serial No. 0739)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the number of labour disputes and claims handled by the Labour Department (LD) in the past 3 years, would the Government provide the following information:

- (a) the number of claims related to employers suspected to have committed criminal offence, with breakdowns by wage offence and other categories of criminal offence;
- (b) among the claims related to employers suspected to have committed criminal offence, the number of cases where LD proactively took out criminal prosecution in accordance with the law and the number of cases where LD did not proactively take out criminal prosecution?

What is the total number of employees involved in the above prosecution cases? If no record of the number of employees is available, what are the reasons and will consideration be given to including the number of employees in the record in the future?

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) Regarding the cases of labour disputes and claims handled by LD, the numbers of cases of suspected breaches of the Employment Ordinance (EO) investigated by LD in 2018, 2019 and 2020 were 540, 625 and 477 respectively. LD does not keep a breakdown by suspected offence involved in these cases.
- (b) Regarding the cases of labour disputes and claims handled by LD, the numbers of cases of suspected breaches of EO where prosecution was taken out and concluded in 2018, 2019 and 2020 were 189, 186 and 165 respectively. Over the same period, the numbers of cases not prosecuted were 333, 383 and 299 respectively.

A prosecution case may involve more than 1 employee, and individual employees may be involved in more than 1 case of prosecution against an employer. In addition, the number of employees involved in a prosecution case may vary during the prosecution process. For example, after prosecution has been initiated, some or all of the employees in a case may be unable to continue to act as prosecution witnesses owing to individual reasons; the emergence of new evidence makes it necessary to discontinue the prosecution case of some or all of the employees, etc. As the number of employees involved in a prosecution case may vary from time to time, LD does not, and has no plans to, keep record of the figures.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)059

(Question Serial No. 0740)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the Employment Programme for the Elderly and Middle-aged (EPEM), would the Government advise this Committee of the following for the past 3 years:

- (a) the numbers of participating employers and employees;
- (b) the respective numbers of participating employees in the age groups of 40-50, 51-55, 56-60, 61-65 and 66-70;
- (c) the total amount of allowance actually granted to employers each year;
- (d) the retention rate of employees upon completion of the programme?

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a)&(b) No prior registration under EPEM (known as the Employment Programme for the Middle-aged before September 2018) is required for employees as relevant registration can be made by their employers after they have secured employment from vacancies placed with the Labour Department (LD). In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 2 574, 3 061 and 2 260 placements eligible for joining EPEM, involving 961, 1 093 and 937 employers. A breakdown by age is provided at Annex 1.
- (c) LD actively invites employers of each placement case eligible for joining EPEM to apply for on-the-job training (OJT) allowance. However, some employers did not apply for the allowance due to various reasons, such as they chose to absorb

the training costs by their own resources. The amount of OJT allowance granted under EPEM from 2018-19 to 2020-21 is provided at Annex 2.

- (d) LD conducts surveys regularly to find out the retention status of those placed into employment under EPEM. According to the surveys conducted up to December 2020, among the employees who have received OJT under the programme, about 79% of the cases recorded a retention period of 4 months or above and 65% stayed in employment for 6 months or more.

Breakdown of placements eligible for joining EPEM from 2018 to 2020 by age

Age	No. of placements		
	2018	2019	2020
40-50	1 160	1 255	822
51-55	691	801	506
56-60	475	597	536
61-65	201	338	304
66-70	39	63	82
Above 70	8	7	10
Total	2 574	3 061	2 260

**Amount of training allowance granted under EPEM
from 2018-19 to 2020-21**

Year	Amount (\$million)
2018-19	3.1
2019-20	6.5
2020-21 (up to February 2021)	8.0

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)060

(Question Serial No. 2006)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Labour Relations (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

With the growing popularity of the "gig economy" in recent years, more and more people have switched to working as gig workers/platform workers and taken up jobs through Internet platforms or applications, especially for couriers. In view of such change in the mode of employment, the Government must collect relevant information in order to effect corresponding policy changes to enhance protection for these workers. In this connection, please advise this Committee:

- (a) whether statistics have been compiled on the number of freelancers such as those taking orders on platforms; if not, whether the Labour Department (LD) will consider collecting relevant data to address future development trends;
- (b) whether LD has received any complaints related to employees' rights and benefits from the workers concerned in recent years, given the ambiguous employment relationship between workers taking orders on Internet platforms and the platform companies, such as that between couriers and delivery platforms;
- (c) given that countries around the world have started to formulate new policies to safeguard the rights and benefits of platform workers in light of the new form of work under the "gig economy", whether the Government has conducted any studies on how to deal with issues relating to employment relationships between platform workers and platform companies so as to safeguard labour rights and benefits.

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 78)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) The Census and Statistics Department does not have relevant statistics on “freelancers such as those taking orders on platforms”. The Government will continue to assess from time to time the need to collect various data.
- (b) From 2018 to 2020, LD received a total of 2 complaints involving gig workers on digital platforms who suspected that they were deprived of labour rights and benefits by means of false self-employment. Upon investigation, no concrete evidence was found to confirm the existence of an actual employment relationship between both parties.
- (c) Gig workers/platform workers in the “gig economy” often take up multiple jobs at a time. Subject to the actual circumstances of their individual work, if there exists in essence an employment relationship between the contractual parties, the other party to the contract (i.e. the platform company) must fulfil its obligations in respect of the statutory employment entitlements of those workers under the employment relationship, otherwise it may be held criminally liable for offences under relevant benefit provisions of the Employment Ordinance, the Employees’ Compensation Ordinance, the Minimum Wage Ordinance and other labour laws. Through various channels and a wide range of promotional activities, LD will continue to publicise among employers, employees and the general public the differences between “employees” and “self-employed persons” as well as their rights and obligations; provide consultation and conciliation services for employees involved in disputes of false self-employment; and spare no effort in safeguarding the statutory rights and benefits of eligible employees through rigorous law enforcement. Employees who suspect that they are deprived of statutory labour rights and benefits as a result of false self-employment can report their cases to LD through its complaint hotline (2815 2200). Upon receipt of complaints, LD will conduct investigation pursuant to the law.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)061

(Question Serial No. 2366)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

- (a) Regarding the Supplementary Labour Scheme (SLS), please advise this Committee of the estimated expenditure and staff establishment involved in 2021-22.
- (b) Regarding the implementation of SLS, please provide breakdowns of the numbers of applications received and approved and workers involved as well as the wages in the past 3 years by year, nationality, industry, job title and wage.

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 106)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) SLS is primarily administered by the Supplementary Labour Division (SLD) of the Labour Department (LD). In 2021-22, the estimated general expenses of SLD are \$480,000 (excluding staff cost) and its staff establishment comprises 36 Labour Officer Grade, 16 Clerical Grade and 1 Workman II posts.
- (b) The numbers of applications received and approved by LD under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020 are at Annex 1. Breakdowns of the numbers of imported workers applied for and approved by industry, job title and monthly wage are at Annexes 2 to 6. Employers need not provide information about the nationality of prospective imported workers when they submit SLS applications. In approving individual applications, LD does not stipulate the nationality of these workers and thus has no information relating to the nationality of imported workers.

**Number of applications received and approved
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020**

	2018	2019	2020
No. of applications*	1 217	1 097	1 112
No. of imported workers applied for*	5 095	4 721	4 204
No. of applications approved*	907	1 036	904
No. of imported workers approved*	3 225	3 378	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the numbers of applications approved and imported workers approved within the year do not correspond to the numbers of applications received and imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020:
a breakdown by industry**

Industry	No. of imported workers applied for*			No. of imported workers approved*		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1. Agriculture and Fishing	886	970	1 072	705	797	780
2. Manufacturing	390	485	274	158	176	192
3. Construction	351	561	46	589	172	218
4. Wholesale, Retail and Import/Export Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	483	448	290	197	270	228
5. Transport, Storage and Communications	68	131	38	24	9	16
6. Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	168	73	8	19	28	18
7. Community, Social and Personal Services	2 749	2 053	2 476	1 533	1 926	1 671
Total	5 095	4 721	4 204	3 225	3 378	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	2 108	1 409
2. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	553	448
3. Gardening Worker	315	247
4. Cook	302	155
5. Machine Operator	165	57
6. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	112	69
7. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	87	79
8. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	79	38
9. Waste Handling Worker	72	19
10. Others	1 302	704
Total	5 095	3 225

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2019:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	1 707	1 718
2. Gardening Worker	483	353
3. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	480	435
4. Cook	291	170
5. Machine Operator	240	83
6. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	105	86
7. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	102	73
8. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	45	37
9. Waste Handling Worker	43	45
10. Others	1 225	378
Total	4 721	3 378

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2020:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	2 199	1 511
2. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	625	474
3. Gardening Worker	437	305
4. Cook	207	158
5. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	117	90
6. Machine Operator	107	75
7. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	81	73
8. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	69	50
9. Waste Handling Worker	66	23
10. Others	296	364
Total	4 204	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020:
a breakdown by monthly wage**

Monthly wage	No. of imported workers applied for*			No. of imported workers approved*		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1. \$8,000 or below	4	3	-	-	-	-
2. Above \$8,000-\$10,000	778	197	13	453	194	34
3. Above \$10,000-\$12,000	397	544	735	607	374	513
4. Above \$12,000-\$14,000	2 603	2 378	2 868	1 278	2 211	1 981
5. Above \$14,000-\$16,000	280	225	127	41	68	69
6. Above \$16,000-\$18,000	337	468	231	125	190	153
7. Above \$18,000-\$20,000	205	179	70	87	60	63
8. Above \$20,000	491	727	160	634	281	310
Total	5 095	4 721	4 204	3 225	3 378	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)062

(Question Serial No. 2367)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the Higher Education Employment Information e-Platform (HEEIP) launched in 2017, please provide the latest figures on the following items:

- (a) What were the numbers of overseas and local bodies collaborated through the Platform in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21?
- (b) What were the numbers of vacancies provided, referral cases and successful placements secured through the Platform in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21?
- (c) How is the effectiveness of HEEIP evaluated?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 109)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) The Labour Department (LD) has, in collaboration with relevant bodies including career service centres and student associations of local and overseas universities, and Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices overseas and on the Mainland, promoted HEEIP to graduates of local universities and persons with higher education residing outside Hong Kong. LD has also publicised this e-Platform among employers and trade associations on a continuous basis to canvass suitable job vacancies. In addition to making direct contact with some of the organisations, LD has also promoted the e-Platform to and collaborated with other bodies through various channels such as Economic and Trade Offices and trade associations.
- (b) In 2018, 2019 and 2020, the e-Platform advertised 26 305, 24 224 and 20 384 job vacancies respectively. As the application methods for the vacancies and contact details of employers are available on the e-Platform, job seekers may make application

to employers direct without LD's referral and they are not required to inform LD of the application results. LD does not have the figures on job seekers who were referred or placed into employment through the e-Platform.

- (c) LD evaluates the effectiveness of the e-Platform by monitoring its usage and data, including the numbers of vacancies advertised and page views. In 2020, the e-Platform advertised a total of 20 384 job vacancies and recorded an average of over 6 400 page views per day.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)063

(Question Serial No. 1999)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Safety and Health at Work

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

According to statistics from the media, more than 10 traffic accidents involving couriers of online food delivery platforms were reported in the whole year of 2020, and the couriers sustained serious injuries in several of these accidents. In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What was the number of claims for work injury compensation involving couriers received by the Labour Department (LD) in 2020?
- (b) If the courier of a food delivery platform involved in an accident is injured during the course of work, is the delivery platform liable to pay compensation for the work injury? If not, will the Government take the initiative to examine the issue of their right to compensation for work injury?
- (c) How will the Government strengthen the work safety protection for couriers under the increasingly popular trend of food delivery platform service?

Asked by: Hon MAK Mei-kuen, Alice (LegCo internal reference no.: 78)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) LD does not keep the number of claims for work injury compensation involving couriers.
- (b) The Employees' Compensation Ordinance (ECO) provides for the payment of statutory compensation to employees who die or sustain injury from an accident arising out of and in the course of employment, or suffer from prescribed occupational diseases. ECO applies to all full-time or part-time employees who are employed under contracts of service or apprenticeship. If a courier employed under a contract of service is

injured in an accident during the course of work, his/her employer is liable to pay compensation under ECO. It does not depend only on the label of the post or contract concerned but is subject to the genuine circumstances of the provision of services in order to determine whether a courier is an employee. If there exists in essence an employment relationship between the contractual parties, the food delivery platform company has to fulfil its obligations as an employer under ECO. LD has been sparing no effort in safeguarding the statutory rights and benefits of employees through rigorous law enforcement. Labour inspectors actively conduct inspections of workplaces of various industries to check employers' compliance with relevant labour laws. They also explain to both employers and employees their respective rights and obligations under the contracts of employment and labour laws. Suspected breaches of labour laws will be promptly investigated upon detection. Employees who suspect that they are deprived of statutory labour rights and benefits can report their cases to LD through its complaint hotline (2815 2200). Upon receipt of complaints, LD will conduct investigation pursuant to the law.

- (c) The Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance is enforced by LD with a view to safeguarding employees' occupational safety and health (OSH). However, the Ordinance does not apply to employees carrying out driving work in public places (including employed couriers). Just like other drivers, these employees' driving safety is regulated by the Road Traffic Ordinance, which covers road safety issues concerning drivers' driving skills, vehicle safety devices, behaviour of road users, etc.

Nevertheless, LD enhances the OSH awareness of employees of various industries, including outdoor workers, through publicity and promotion as well as education and training, such as disseminating messages relating to prevention of heat stroke, proper posture for manual handling operation, etc. In addition, the Occupational Safety and Health Council also disseminates OSH messages among employees working outdoors, including couriers, through a wide range of publicity channels such as its social media platforms, newspapers, OSH publications, etc.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)064****(Question Serial No. 2000)**Head: (90) Labour DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (3) Safety and Health at WorkControlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and WelfareQuestion:

Due to the impact of the pandemic, the number of non-fatal accidents and the employee accident rate in Hong Kong in 2020 have substantially decreased as compared with 2019. However, the number of prosecutions taken out has only decreased by about 10%. In this connection, please provide the details of the prosecutions taken out in 2019 and 2020 with breakdowns by industry and reason for taking out prosecutions.

Asked by: Hon MAK Mei-kuen, Alice (LegCo internal reference no.: 74)Reply:

A breakdown of the number of prosecutions taken out by the Labour Department under the Safety and Health at Work Programme in 2019 and 2020 by industry is provided in the table below:

Industry	2019	2020
Construction	2 305	2 015
Food and beverage services	403	372
Others	300	352
Total	3 008	2 739

A breakdown by reason for taking out prosecutions is provided in the table below:

Reason for taking out prosecutions	2019	2020
Unsafe hoists, lifting appliances/gear, goods lifts and lifting operations	403	466
Unsafe machinery	118	68
Unsafe working at height	789	663
Non-provision of/not wearing personal protective equipment	606	538
Non-conformity with fire safety requirements	383	280
Electrical hazards	52	23
Hazards caused by chemical/gas/dust	4	5
Non-compliance with general duties provisions	407	362
Ventilation/housekeeping/noise/lighting/manual handling issues	47	51
Others	199	283
Total	3 008	2 739

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)065

(Question Serial No. 2001)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the details of workplace inspections under this Programme, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) Will the Labour Department (LD) notify the responsible person for a workplace before conducting inspection to such workplace?
- (b) In 2019 and 2020, about 10% of the workplaces were locked. Did LD conduct another inspection to the locked workplaces?
- (c) Please provide the numbers of proactive prosecutions taken out by LD against responsible persons for non-compliant workplaces after conducting workplace inspections in 2019 and 2020, with breakdowns by industry and reason.

Asked by: Hon MAK Mei-kuen, Alice (LegCo internal reference no.: 73)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) Under normal circumstances, LD will not notify the responsible persons for workplaces in advance before conducting inspections to such workplaces under Programme (4). However, on the premise that the effectiveness of law enforcement will not be undermined, LD may conduct notified inspections when necessary, such as when following up on employment records, meeting with company representatives, meeting with imported workers under the Supplementary Labour Scheme, etc.
- (b) Out of the inspections conducted by LD in 2019 and 2020, 17 144 (11.2%) and 10 552 (10.1%) workplaces were locked respectively. If a workplace is found to be locked during inspection, LD will conduct another inspection to the workplace concerned to ascertain its operation.

- (c) In 2019 and 2020, the numbers of summonses heard regarding prosecution taken out by LD after conducting workplace inspections were 2 151 and 1 927 respectively. Of these, the numbers of summonses convicted were 2 022 and 1 775 respectively. Breakdowns by industry and reason for taking out prosecution are at the Annex.

**Numbers of summonses regarding prosecution taken out by LD
after conducting workplace inspections in 2019 and 2020
with breakdowns by industry and reason for taking out prosecution**

(i) By industry

Industry	No. of summonses heard		No. of summonses convicted	
	2019	2020	2019	2020
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	482	449	461	408
Catering	380	321	341	301
Community, social and personal services	281	278	270	263
Wholesale/retail trade	325	362	313	355
Construction	282	164	252	109
Import/export trade	173	232	171	222
Transport, storage and communications	170	85	165	85
Manufacturing	49	31	41	28
Hotels	2	1	2	1
Others	7	4	6	3
Total	2 151	1 927	2 022	1 775

(ii) By reason for taking out prosecution

Reason for taking out prosecution	No. of summonses heard		No. of summonses convicted	
	2019	2020	2019	2020
Failure to take out employees' compensation insurance	1 001	980	976	965
Wage offences	692	524	633	449
Default on awarded payment of the Labour Tribunal/Minor Employment Claims Adjudication Board	176	145	143	113
Holiday offences	252	227	247	208
Failure to keep record of employees	12	25	10	24
Others	18	26	13	16
Total	2 151	1 927	2 022	1 775

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)066

(Question Serial No. 2003)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

In 2019, the Labour Department (LD) updated the Code of Practice in Times of Typhoons and Rainstorms by the addition of "extreme conditions". This year, LD is going to extend employees' compensation protection to employees commuting to or from work under "extreme conditions" announced by the Government. In this connection, please advise this Committee of the number of complaints received by LD in the past 5 years concerning employees who had their annual leave, statutory holidays or rest days deducted by their employers due to their failure to report for duty after the issue of Typhoon Warning Signal No. 8 (T8) or above.

Asked by: Hon MAK Mei-kuen, Alice (LegCo internal reference no.: 72)

Reply:

LD does not keep the number of complaints concerning employees who had their annual leave, statutory holidays or rest days deducted by their employers due to their absence from duty under T8 or above.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)067

(Question Serial No. 2004)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Safety and Health at Work

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the numbers of fatal accidents in industrial undertakings in 2019 and 2020, please advise this Committee of the case details of the fatal accidents, including the time, industry, name of company involved, place, gender and age of the deceased, follow-up taken by the Government and whether the duty holders concerned such as employers were prosecuted and the penalty imposed.

Asked by: Hon MAK Mei-kuen, Alice (LegCo internal reference no.: 76)

Reply:

The date, industry, district as well as gender and age of the deceased of the fatal industrial accidents that happened in 2019 and 2020, and the follow-up taken by the Government, information on whether the duty holders concerned such as employers were prosecuted and the penalty imposed are set out at the Annex.

The Labour Department (LD) is unable to provide the name of companies involved, mainly considering that the disclosure of the information may result in companies that are facing or may face legal proceedings not having a chance of a fair trial.

Fatal industrial accidents in 2019 and 2020

	Date	Industry	District	Gender of the deceased	Age	Follow-up taken by the Government	Prosecution against/penalty imposed on the duty holders concerned (including employers)
2019							
1	9 January 2019	Construction	Wong Tai Sin District	Male	51	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	A fine of \$35,000
2	12 January 2019	Construction	Sham Shui Po District	Male	43	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Total fine of \$176,000
3	25 February 2019	Repairing services	Yuen Long District	Male	57	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Total fine of \$45,000
4	2 March 2019	Construction	Kwun Tong District	Male	42	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Acquitted after trial
5	5 March 2019	Construction	Yuen Long District	Male	33	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Total fine of \$108,000
6	3 April 2019	Transport and warehouse services	Tuen Mun District	Female	32	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Total fine of \$196,000

	Date	Industry	District	Gender of the deceased	Age	Follow-up taken by the Government	Prosecution against/penalty imposed on the duty holders concerned (including employers)
7	9 April 2019	Transport and warehouse services	Yuen Long District	Male	69	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Total fine of \$72,000
8	16 April 2019	Construction	Tai Po District	Male	46	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Total fine of \$72,500
9	22 June 2019	Transport and warehouse services	Kwai Tsing District	Male	37	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Total fine of \$90,000
10	29 June 2019	Construction	Islands District	Male	38	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
11	17 July 2019	Construction	Tuen Mun District	Male	37	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
12	22 July 2019	Construction	Wan Chai District	Male	56	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
13	10 August 2019	Construction	Wan Chai District	Male	64	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Total fine of \$455,000

	Date	Industry	District	Gender of the deceased	Age	Follow-up taken by the Government	Prosecution against/penalty imposed on the duty holders concerned (including employers)
14	12 August 2019	Construction	Islands District	Male	37	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Total fine of \$240,000
15	3 October 2019	Construction	Yuen Long District	Male	66	LD had completed the accident investigation and decided not to take out prosecution after seeking legal advice from the Department of Justice (DoJ)	Not applicable
16	4 October 2019	Transport and warehouse services	Yuen Long District	Male	60	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Total fine of \$98,000
17	8 October 2019	Construction	Tuen Mun District	Male	64	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	1 defendant was fined a total of \$76,000, and the judicial proceedings with respect to 2 other defendants of the same case are in progress
18	30 October 2019	Manufacturing	Sai Kung District	Male	24	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
19	21 November 2019	Construction	Islands District	Female	61	LD had completed the accident investigation and decided not to take out prosecution after seeking legal advice from DoJ	Not applicable

	Date	Industry	District	Gender of the deceased	Age	Follow-up taken by the Government	Prosecution against/penalty imposed on the duty holders concerned (including employers)
20	3 December 2019	Construction	Yuen Long District	Male	61	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
21	11 December 2019	Construction	Sai Kung District	Female	55	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
22	19 December 2019	Construction	Kowloon City District	Male	46	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
2020							
1	11 January 2020	Waste management	Sai Kung District	Male	31	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	2 defendants were fined a total of \$95,000, and the judicial proceedings with respect to 1 other defendant of the same case are in progress
2	13 January 2020	Construction	Eastern District	Male	57	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	1 defendant was fined a total of \$62,000, and the judicial proceedings with respect to 2 other defendants of the same case are in progress

	Date	Industry	District	Gender of the deceased	Age	Follow-up taken by the Government	Prosecution against/penalty imposed on the duty holders concerned (including employers)
3	23 March 2020	Construction	Sham Shui Po District	Male	61	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Total fine of \$174,000
4	31 March 2020	Construction	Sai Kung District	Male	37	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
5	27 April 2020	Construction	Wan Chai District	Male	44	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	A fine of \$50,000
6	13 May 2020	Construction	Central & Western District	Male	66	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
7	1 June 2020	Transport and warehouse services	Yuen Long District	Male	66	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Total fine of \$60,000
8	27 June 2020	Construction	Kowloon City District	Male	41	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
9	30 June 2020	Construction	Islands District	Male	36	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress

	Date	Industry	District	Gender of the deceased	Age	Follow-up taken by the Government	Prosecution against/penalty imposed on the duty holders concerned (including employers)
10	14 July 2020	Construction	Kowloon City District	Male	42	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
11	20 July 2020	Construction	Kwun Tong District	Male	24	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
12	21 July 2020	Construction	Kowloon City District	Male	51	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
13	23 July 2020	Construction	Kowloon City District	Male	54	LD had completed the accident investigation and taken out prosecution against the duty holders concerned	Judicial proceedings in progress
14	7 October 2020	Construction	Southern District	Male	48	Accident investigation in progress	Not applicable
15	12 October 2020	Manufacturing	Kwun Tong District	Male	54	Accident investigation in progress	Not applicable
16	27 October 2020	Construction	Kwun Tong District	Male	60	Accident investigation in progress	Not applicable
17	23 November 2020	Construction	Kwai Tsing District	Male	35	Accident investigation in progress	Not applicable
18	8 December 2020	Construction	Tai Po District	Male	29	Accident investigation in progress	Not applicable
19	9 December 2020	Construction	Southern District	Male	63	Accident investigation in progress	Not applicable

	Date	Industry	District	Gender of the deceased	Age	Follow-up taken by the Government	Prosecution against/penalty imposed on the duty holders concerned (including employers)
20	10 December 2020	Construction	Southern District	Female	62	Accident investigation in progress	Not applicable
21	15 December 2020	Construction	Wan Chai District	Male	58	Accident investigation in progress	Not applicable

Note: The 22 fatal accidents in industrial undertakings in 2020 as mentioned in the Controlling Officer's Report of the 2021-22 Budget are provisional statistics. After investigation, it was confirmed that one of the accidents was not an industrial accident. Thus, the above table sets out only 21 fatal industrial accidents that happened in 2020.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)068

(Question Serial No. 0202)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (1) Labour Relations
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

According to Programme 1, the Labour Department (LD) will continue to pursue the legislative proposal for abolishing the “offsetting” arrangement with a view to coming up with the bills for introduction into the Legislative Council (LegCo) in the coming year. Since many enterprises are still worried that the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement will increase operating costs, and the business and industrial sectors are hard hit by the pandemic, will the Government suspend the exercise so that enterprises can recover as soon as possible? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? Will the Government further increase its financial commitment for the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? What are the manpower and expenditure involved in the legislative exercise on the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement for the coming year?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 61)

Reply:

The Government continues to take forward the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement, including drafting the legislation and thrashing out the operational details of the supporting measures. The Government plans to introduce the bills for the abolition of the “offsetting” of severance payment (SP) and long service payment (LSP) by the accrued benefits of employers’ mandatory contributions under the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) System into LegCo in the next legislative year with a view to securing their passage in mid-2022. During LegCo’s deliberation on the bills, the community will be able to ascertain the Government’s financial commitment in relation to employers’ expenses on SP/LSP, and the implementation details of and timetable for the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement. The community can also provide feedback or suggestions through the established consultation arrangements of LegCo. The Government plans to implement the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement in tandem with the full implementation of the eMPF Platform of the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority in 2025. As such, enterprises and employers will have sufficient time to get prepared for the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement.

The enhanced arrangements for abolishing “offsetting” as announced by the Chief Executive in the 2018 Policy Address include the provision of a two-tier subsidy to employers to share their expenses on SP and LSP after the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement. The first-tier subsidy lasts for 12 years while the duration of the second-tier subsidy is 25 years. It is estimated that the Government’s total financial commitment in the 25-year subsidy period is \$29.3 billion, representing a significant increase of almost \$20 billion compared to the proposal of the last-term Government. It should go a long way in helping enterprises, particularly micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, adapt to the policy change.

In 2021-22, LD will have a total staff establishment of 21 posts, including 13 Labour Officer Grade posts (i.e. 1 Chief Labour Officer, 4 Senior Labour Officers, 6 Labour Officers and 2 Assistant Labour Officers I), 3 Analyst/Programmer Grade posts (i.e. 1 Systems Manager, 1 Analyst/Programmer I and 1 Analyst/Programmer II), 2 Treasury Accountant Grade posts (i.e. 1 Chief Treasury Accountant and 1 Senior Treasury Accountant), 2 Clerical Officer Grade posts (i.e. 1 Clerical Officer and 1 Assistant Clerical Officer) and 1 Personal Secretary Grade post, for carrying out the work relating to the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement. The salary cost for the above 21 posts will be \$23.29 million. The expenditure (excluding the salary cost for staff) will be \$4.322 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)069

(Question Serial No. 0203)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Labour Relations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

According to Programme 1, the Labour Department (LD) will pursue a proposal to increase progressively the number of statutory holidays (SHs) under the Employment Ordinance (EO) in the coming year. Each additional day of SH will incur additional costs for employers. As many enterprises are in despair due to the pandemic, will the Government suspend the work until the economy recovers and then proceed to consult the business and industrial sectors? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? Will the Government consider providing subsidies for the employers to meet the additional expenditure incurred in increasing the number of SHs? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? What are the manpower and expenditure involved in pursuing the work?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 62)

Reply:

Regarding the progressive increase in the number of SHs under EO, the proposal formulated by the Government includes designating the first additional SH in 2022 and increasing one additional day of SH every 2 years, so that the number of SHs will be on a par with the number of general holidays other than Sundays. This pacing seeks to strike an appropriate balance between improving employees' benefits and facilitating employers (including households employing foreign domestic helpers) to make corresponding adjustments on an incremental basis.

Employees' benefits in Hong Kong are primarily borne by employers direct. If they are subsidised by the Government, it will involve systemic changes and must be carefully considered. Moreover, the use of public money to subsidise employers' expenditure on the pay of additional SHs will entail high administrative cost, which is not cost-effective.

LD has budgeted for the creation of 2 time-limited posts in 2021-22, including 1 Senior Labour Officer post for 2 years and 1 Assistant Labour Officer I post for 3 years, to handle

the related work. The total annual salary cost for the above 2 time-limited posts is about \$2.32 million for the first 2 years and about \$0.81 million for the third year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)070

(Question Serial No. 0204)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

According to Programme 2, the Labour Department will launch the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme in the coming year to encourage enterprises to recruit and deploy local university graduates to work in the Mainland cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. The Scheme, which provides 2 000 places, is well received with 200 enterprises having submitted their applications and offered more than 1 400 job vacancies. Will the Government increase the number of places promptly to satisfy the demand? Moreover, will the allowance be increased to attract more talents? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? What are the manpower and expenditure involved for the Scheme?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 63)

Reply:

The Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme was launched and open for application from enterprises on 8 January 2021. To encourage enterprises to participate in the Scheme and compensate them for the additional expenses in training the graduates, the Government will grant a monthly allowance of HK\$10,000 to enterprises for each graduate employed for up to 18 months. The Scheme has been well received by enterprises. As at 28 February, more than 200 enterprises have submitted 1 512 job vacancies to the Scheme Secretariat. The allowance granted to enterprises is believed to be sufficiently attractive. The Government will closely monitor the implementation of the Scheme, assess the adequacy of the places and review the Scheme in a timely manner.

To launch the Scheme, the Government allocated \$376 million from the Anti-epidemic Fund to cover payment of the allowance to employers, publicity and promotion and administrative expenses, as well as contingency fee. The relevant funding is outside the scope of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account. The Scheme is implemented through internal deployment within the Government. As the staff concerned

also undertake other duties, the manpower and expenditure involved cannot be separately identified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)071

(Question Serial No. 2407)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Labour Relations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

As mentioned in the Controlling Officer's Report, the Labour Department is responsible for the administration of trade unions. In 2020, the number of cases of registration of new trade unions and changes of union names/rules was 573. What are the respective numbers of newly registered and de-registered trade unions in the past 3 years? Please also set out in table form the names of trade unions newly registered in 2019 and 2020.

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

The numbers of trade unions newly registered and de-registered under the Trade Unions Ordinance from 2018 to 2020 are set out at Annex 1. The lists of trade unions newly registered in 2019 and 2020 are at Annex 2 and Annex 3 respectively.

**Numbers of trade unions newly registered and
de-registered from 2018 to 2020**

Year	Number of trade unions newly registered in the year	Number of trade unions de-registered in the year
2018	13	4
2019	25	5
2020	495	2

Trade unions newly registered in 2019

	Name of trade union*
1.	Trust and Corporate Services Professionals General Union
2.	Overhead Contact System Industry Union
3.	Hong Kong General Union of School Counselling Professionals
4.	Hospital Authority Staff Rights General Union
5.	Hong Kong Industrial Diving Union
6.	Hong Kong Security Guards General Union
7.	Hospital Clusters Staff Union
8.	Hong Kong Financial Industry Employees General Union
9.	Union for New Civil Servants
10.	Hong Kong Information Technology Workers' Union
11.	Hong Kong Insurance Union
12.	Hong Kong Government Services Staff General Union
13.	Hong Kong Fire Services Engineering Professional Employees Association
14.	Government Arboriculture Supervisors General Union
15.	Housing Department Landscape Architects Association
16.	Staff Union of ELCHK - Social Service
17.	Hong Kong Alliance of Accounting Professionals
18.	Railway Power
19.	The General Union of Hong Kong Speech Therapists
20.	Advance L. Union
21.	Hospital Authority Employees Alliance
22.	Hong Kong Testing and Certification Union
23.	Hong Kong White Collar (Administration & Clerical) Connect Union
24.	Hong Kong Construction and Engineering Employees General Union
25.	Hong Kong Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Industries Employees General Union

* Listed in the order of date of registration of trade unions.

Trade unions newly registered in 2020

	Name of trade union*
1.	Newly-arrived Students Teachers' Association
2.	Government Non-Civil Service Staff General Union
3.	Hong Kong Public Relations and Communications Professional Union
4.	Hong Kong Association of Bakery and Coffee Practitioners
5.	General Union of High Voltage Professionals
6.	Non-Chinese Speaking Students Teachers' Association
7.	Hong Kong Fire, Ambulance and Control Staff's Union
8.	Maritime Transport Services Industry Trade Union
9.	Hong Kong Trade Unions Employees Association
10.	Hong Kong Trading, Merchandising and Purchasing Employees Union
11.	I.T. Hipster Association
12.	Hong Kong Electronics Technology Professionals' Union
13.	Senior Administrative And Management Executives Union
14.	Hong Kong Educators Alliance
15.	HKSAR Government Disciplined Services Staff Association
16.	Clerical Professionals and Administrative Assistants Association
17.	Hong Kong Tourism Industry Innovation General Union
18.	Association of Professional Pest Control Practitioner
19.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Mobile Machinery Operator and Maintenance Employees Union
20.	Hong Kong Writers Union
21.	Hong Kong Professional Engineers Association
22.	Hong Kong Construction Site Asbestos Removal Employees Union
23.	Accounting Bro'Sis Labour Union
24.	H&M Hong Kong Staff Union
25.	Hong Kong Human Resources Employees Union
26.	The Union of Hong Kong Occupational Therapists
27.	HKSAR GOVERNMENT NEW TERMS CIVIL SERVANTS ASSOCIATION
28.	The CUHK Faculty of Medicine Research Personnel Union
29.	Hong Kong Construction Site Miscellaneous Workers Union
30.	Hong Kong Style Tea Restaurant Employees General Union
31.	Hong Kong Event Professionals Union
32.	The Association of Clerical Employees in Logistics Industry
33.	The Hong Kong General Union of Physiotherapists
34.	Hong Kong Aviation Staff Alliance
35.	Hong Kong Construction Site Cement Sand Mortar Workers Union
36.	Union of the Hong Kong Professional Optometrists
37.	Hong Kong Union of Designers
38.	Hong Kong Marketing & Sales Professionals Union
39.	Union of United Domestic Workers
40.	Hong Kong Construction Site Polished Finish (Cement) Employees Union
41.	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service Staff Union
42.	Hong Kong Building Demolition Workers Union

	Name of trade union*
43.	Hong Kong Tour Bus Drivers Union
44.	Hong Kong Theatre Arts Practitioners Union
45.	Hong Kong Franchised Buses Part Time Employees' Union
46.	Hong Kong Design Individuals Union
47.	Hong Kong Construction Site Concrete Pump Truck Operators Union
48.	Hong Kong Construction Site Bar Bending Friendship Union
49.	Hong Kong Pet Industry Union
50.	Association of Hong Kong Medical and Health Care Staff
51.	Hong Kong Construction Site Concreters Union
52.	YMCAHK Staff Association
53.	Lady MacLehose Centre Trade Union
54.	Hong Kong Construction Site General Welding Union
55.	Hong Kong Manufacturing Industry Union Employees Association
56.	Practising Pharmacists Alliance
57.	Hong Kong Construction Site Machinery Operations and Metal Maintenance Union
58.	Hong Kong Construction Site Tilers Union
59.	Marine Navigation Professionals Association
60.	Cross Border Financial Professionals General Union
61.	Small and Medium Child Welfare Organisation Labour Union
62.	Occupational Therapy Practitioner Alliance
63.	Shatin Researchers Association
64.	Post-natal Care Services Workers Association
65.	Hong Kong Facilities Management Professional Employees Association
66.	New Territories West Construction Industry Employees Union
67.	Human Resources Professional Practitioners Association
68.	Hong Kong Non-profit Organisation Employees Association
69.	New Teachers Alliance
70.	Association of Manufacturing Industry Employees
71.	Hong Kong Early Childhood Educators' Union
72.	CitizenNews Staff Union
73.	Hong Kong Chinese Medicine Professionals Association
74.	Hong Kong Air-conditioning Engineering Professional Employees Association
75.	Environmental Education and Ecological Conservation Workers' Union
76.	Hong Kong Union of Actuaries and Actuarial Professionals
77.	KMB Frontline Drivers General Union
78.	Cement Sand Mortar Workers' Alliance
79.	Hong Kong Financial Services Technology Employees Association
80.	Hong Kong Professional Management Consulting Service Employees Association
81.	Hong Kong Real Estate Agents Rights and Benefit General Union
82.	Hong Kong Airport Cleaning Services Employees General Union
83.	HKSAR Government Technical Inspectorates and Works Supervisors Association
84.	The Association of Hong Kong Logistics & Freight Forwarding Professionals
85.	Actuarial Science Practitioners Union
86.	Building Materials Employees Union
87.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Executives Association
88.	Hong Kong Long Win Workers General Union

	Name of trade union*
89.	Hong Kong Civil Servants Association 2000+
90.	Hong Kong Catering and Service Staff Association
91.	New World First Bus Workers Mutual Aid General Union
92.	Hong Kong Steel Bending Workers Association
93.	Hong Kong Vessels Engine Operators Union
94.	KOL Workers Association
95.	Beverage Sales and Practitioners Association
96.	Medicine and Cosmetics Retail Workers General Union
97.	Hong Kong Cross Boundary Coach Workers Union
98.	Hong Kong Retail Frontline Union
99.	Hongkong Healthcare Professionals' Association
100.	Association of Formwork Employees of Hong Kong Construction Industry
101.	Hong Kong Society of Medical Imaging Technologists
102.	Transportation Industry Clerical Staff Union
103.	Hong Kong Marine Infrastructure Industry Employees Union
104.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Purchasing Staff Union
105.	Hong Kong Textile Practitioners Association
106.	Retail Frontline Synergy Union
107.	Hong Kong Water Electric Industry Workers Association
108.	Educational Psychologists Union
109.	Hong Kong Household Services Employees Union
110.	Accounting and Finance Employees Solidarity Union
111.	Hong Kong Style Tea Restaurant Noodle Bar Employees Union
112.	Association of Miscellaneous Cleaners of Hong Kong Construction Industry
113.	Iron and Steel Industry Employees General Union
114.	Power Industry Executives Professional and Administrative Assistants Association
115.	Practitioner Association of Rainbow Social Service
116.	Hong Kong Information Technology & Communications Industry Employees Association
117.	Hospital Authority New Territories West Cluster Staff Association
118.	Hong Kong Ship Industry Employees Union
119.	Railway Industry Employees Union
120.	The Union of Social Service for the People
121.	Financial Administrative and Clerical Staff Union
122.	Association of Miscellaneous Employees of Hong Kong Construction Industry
123.	Marine Engineering Professionals Association
124.	Actuarial Practitioners Continuing Professional Development Association
125.	Construction Safety Supervision Staff Union
126.	Business Services Employees Union
127.	Office Assistants Employees Union
128.	Hong Kong Construction Site Plasterers Union
129.	Internal Controls and Compliance Professionals Association
130.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Transport Workers' Union
131.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Project Management Staff Union
132.	Service Industry Secretary Professionals Association
133.	Hong Kong Construction Site Management and Administrative Workers Union
134.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Occupational Safety Workers Union

	Name of trade union*
135.	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Workers Trade Union
136.	Hong Kong Construction Site Erecting Formwork Workers Association
137.	Association of Escort Service Staffs
138.	Pulp and Paper Trade Employees Association
139.	Old District Redevelopment Workers Union
140.	Association of Construction Site Foremen
141.	China-Hong Kong Cultural Exchange Employees Union
142.	Hong Kong Bricklayers Union
143.	Marketing Sales and Corporate Image Promotion Union
144.	Hong Kong Construction Rebar Fixing Detailing Artisan Union
145.	HK Inspection and Testing Alliance
146.	Tourism Administrators Association
147.	Hong Kong Union of Godown, Wharf and Air Freight Workers
148.	Hong Kong Electrician Union
149.	Renovation Miscellaneous Workers Union
150.	Food Import-Export Industry Workers Union
151.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Painters Union
152.	Hong Kong Fresh & Frozen Food Industry Workers Union
153.	Hong Kong Automation Equipment Employees Association
154.	Hong Kong Financial Industry Administrators Union
155.	Hong Kong Construction Rebar Fixing Artisans Union
156.	Hong Kong Office Administrative Staff General Union
157.	Hong Kong Citybus Workers General Union
158.	Government Engineering Staff General Union
159.	Toy Manufacturing Employees Union
160.	Hong Kong Construction Site Formwork Carpenters Union
161.	The Institute of Surveying and Mapping Technicians in Sha Tin
162.	Hong Kong Textile Trade Employees General Union
163.	Hong Kong Financial Industry Clerical Professionals Association
164.	Hong Kong Social Service Employees Association
165.	M Plus Museum Staff Union
166.	Government Contract Staff Union
167.	Construction Industry Management Staff Association
168.	Hong Kong Security Guards and Security Systems Staff General Union
169.	Business and Personal Services Part-time Employees Union
170.	Aviation IT Workers Union
171.	Real Estate Management and Clerical Staff Union
172.	Oil and Foodstuffs Employees General Union
173.	Hong Kong Councillor Assistants Frontline
174.	Private Healthcare Professionals Association
175.	Hong Kong Printing Standardization Employees Association
176.	Money Laundering Reporting Officers General Union
177.	Hong Kong Civil Works Concreters Union
178.	Corporate Compliance Officers General Union
179.	Hong Kong Construction Site Bricklaying Workers Union
180.	Hong Kong Construction Site Floor Screeding Workers Union
181.	Academy Facilities Management and Maintenance Practitioners Association

	Name of trade union*
182.	Association of Tiler and Bricklayer of Hong Kong
183.	Association of Security and Guarding Services Employees
184.	Automobile Industry Clerical and Managerial Staff Union
185.	Hong Kong Construction Site Ceramic Tilers Union
186.	Union of Hong Kong Driving Instructors
187.	Hong Kong Construction Site Bar Fixers Union
188.	Hong Kong Style Tea Restaurant Beverage Staff Union
189.	Hong Kong High Performance Computing Practitioners Union
190.	Association of Construction Industry Supervisory and Clerical Staff
191.	Hong Kong Floor Tile Workers Union
192.	Hong Kong Aluminium Window Installation Workers Union
193.	Wealth Management and Financial Planning Employees Union
194.	Construction Site Engineering Management Employees Union
195.	Hong Kong Testing, Inspection and Certification Professional Employees General Union
196.	Fortune Harbour Catering Association
197.	Import and Export Trade Employees of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Union
198.	Hong Kong Information Technology and Communications Executives Union
199.	Aerospace Technology Staff Union
200.	Building Security And Guarding Service Employees General Union
201.	General Insurance Staff Association
202.	Hong Kong Marine Staff Association
203.	Hong Kong Veterinary Industry Workers Union
204.	Hong Kong And Kowloon Cargo Transport Workers Union
205.	The Association of Patent Agency Practitioners
206.	Legal Staff Union
207.	Telecommunications and Information Technology Industry Employees General Union
208.	Hong Kong Gold Mining Labour Union
209.	Hong Kong Construction Site Concrete Repairers Union
210.	Hong Kong Railway Technicians Association
211.	Hong Kong Style Tea Restaurant Waiters Union
212.	Trade Union of Practitioners of Solar Power Generation
213.	Hong Kong Film Buyers' Association
214.	Hong Kong Petroleum and Petrochemical Corporations Clerical, Secretarial and General Staff Union
215.	Construction Employees Alliance
216.	Shatin Inhabitants Association Social Service Union
217.	The Hong Kong China Affiliated Enterprises Human Resources Union
218.	Hong Kong Petroleum and Petrochemical Corporations Industrial Finance Employees Union
219.	Association of Site Machinery Workers
220.	Financial Service Employees Union
221.	Hong Kong and Kowloon Tourism Workers Union
222.	Tai Po Community Services Employees Union
223.	Innovation Technology and E-commerce Employees Union

	Name of trade union*
224.	Hong Kong Psychotherapy and Counselling Practitioners Union
225.	Financial Industry Managerial Staff Association
226.	Hong Kong Information and Communications Technology Staff Union
227.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Metal Scaffolding Union
228.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Rigger Workers Association
229.	Information Technology and Artificial Intelligence Professionals Association
230.	Tsim Sha Tsui Clerical and Administrative Staff Union
231.	Hong Kong and Kowloon Natural Resources and Energy Industry Workers General Union
232.	High-speed Waterway Passenger Transportation Staff Union
233.	Hong Kong Technology Innovation Education Professional Association
234.	Hong Kong Chinese Medicine Manufacturing Employees Union
235.	Hong Kong Frozen Meat Food Employees Association
236.	Energy and Environmental Protection Industries Clerical and Professional Employees Association
237.	Hong Kong Alternations and Additions Works Professionals Association
238.	Hong Kong Waiters and Waitresses Alliance
239.	Hong Kong Clerical and Administrative Employees Union
240.	Hong Kong Film Distributors Staff Guild
241.	Hong Kong Dance Professionals Association
242.	General Union of Foreign Exchange Traders
243.	Backup Power Industry Practitioners Association
244.	Hong Kong Green Recycling Practitioners Union
245.	Wanchai Energy Industry Employees Union
246.	The Association of Trademark Agent Practitioners
247.	Community Worker Employees Union (New Territories East)
248.	Tourism Industry Staff Alliance
249.	Financial Industry Staff Association
250.	Kowloon Educational Staff Association
251.	Hong Kong Hotel Industry Employees Union
252.	Hong Kong Vocational Training (Construction Industry) Employees Association
253.	Construction Industry Association for Chinese & Non-Chinese in Hong Kong
254.	Hong Kong and Kowloon Security & Inspection Association
255.	Clerical Employees Association for Chinese & Non-Chinese in Hong Kong
256.	Cosmetic Formulators and Skincare Industry Employees Trade Union
257.	Hong Kong Island Chinese Language Teachers Union
258.	Hong Kong Chinese & Non-Chinese Security Guards Association
259.	Traditional Chinese Medicine Industry Employees Mutual Aid Union
260.	Environmental Protection and Construction Engineering Association
261.	Construction, Engineering, Environmental Protection and Recycling Employees Union
262.	Purchasing, Logistics and Supply Chain Management Staff Association
263.	Mould and Plastic Injection and Administrative Assistants Staff Association
264.	Union of Hong Kong Tobacco Industry Employees
265.	Association of Hong Kong Island Liberal Studies Teaching staff
266.	Insurance Industry Workers Association
267.	Yuen Long Catering Services and Professionals Association

	Name of trade union*
268.	Hong Kong Electricity Frontiers
269.	Association of Hong Kong Island Humanities Teachers
270.	Clean Energy Industry Workers Union
271.	Ferry Staff Association
272.	Shipping Management Staff Association
273.	Hong Kong Airport Maintenance Staff Union
274.	Warehouse and Transshipment Cargo Staff Union
275.	Hong Kong NGO Employees Association
276.	Union of Clerical Staff
277.	Recycling Workers Association
278.	Community Service Workers Solidarity Union
279.	Information Technology Industry Staff Alliance
280.	Hong Kong Island School Clerical Employees Union
281.	Association of Secretaries
282.	Satellite Communication Services Staff Union
283.	Hunan Cuisine Catering Establishment Staff Association
284.	Hunanese Restaurant Employees Union
285.	Finance and Information Technology Industry Staff Association
286.	SE Global Functions HK Employees Association
287.	Information Technology and Trade Employees Association
288.	IT Teachers' Union
289.	Community Service Clerical Union
290.	Public Light Buses Staff Union
291.	Hong Kong China Clerical Staff Union
292.	Hong Kong Legal Practitioners Alliance
293.	Union of Clerical Staff (Hung Hom)
294.	Hong Kong Customer Service Employees Union
295.	Hong Kong Marine Bunkering Services Staff Union
296.	Hong Kong Chinese Opera Musicians Association
297.	STEM Education Teaching Staff Association
298.	Apron Air Freight Services Employees Union
299.	Financial Services Industry Middle and Back Office Workers Union
300.	United Lawyers Association
301.	Finance and Accounting Industry Staff Union
302.	Hong Kong Legal Workers Union
303.	Carol Gloves Manufacturing Limited Staff Union
304.	Food Manufacturing and Processing Industry Employees Union
305.	Union of Financial and Information Technology Advisory Staff
306.	Association of Construction Industry Staff
307.	Clerical, Finance and Administrative Support Staff Association
308.	Hong Kong Education Executives Association
309.	Union of Logistics and Warehouse Employees
310.	Recreation and Sports Services Employees Union
311.	Hong Kong Company Secretarial Professionals Association
312.	Hong Kong Futures Market Analysis and Securities Industry Staff General Union
313.	Financial Technology Professional Services Personnel Union
314.	Union of Hong Kong Sports Staff

	Name of trade union*
315.	Administrative and Clerical Employees Association
316.	Customer Services and Clerical Staff Association
317.	Union of Hong Kong Executive and Secretarial Staff
318.	Staff Rights Union of Cleaning Services
319.	New Territories East Construction Industry Employees Union
320.	Information Technology Industry Alliance
321.	Hong Kong Mandarin Teachers Association
322.	China Sunshine Aviation Staff Hong Kong Union
323.	Hong Kong Enterprise Security Staff Association
324.	Association of Hong Kong Insurance Staff
325.	Electronics Plastic Employees Association
326.	Staff Union of Hong Kong Insurance Industry
327.	Hong Kong FinTech and Innovation Professionals Association
328.	Hong Kong In-house Counsel Association
329.	Association of Lift and Escalator Staff
330.	Union of Child Care Workers
331.	Tourism Industry Friendship Union
332.	Economic Services Professionals Union
333.	Construction Workers Association
334.	Councillor Assistants Union
335.	Hong Kong Clerical and Management Staff Association
336.	Hong Kong Finance Professionals Sustainable Development Association
337.	Union of Secretarial and Clerical Employees
338.	Association of Textile Industry Staff
339.	Hong Kong Environmental Industry Management Staff Association
340.	Hong Kong Engineering and Consulting (Small Potatoes) Staff Union
341.	Kowloon Clerical Employees Alliance
342.	Tourism Industry Employees Mutual Aid Union
343.	The Association of Pastoral Workers for Catholic Schools
344.	Electrical Appliances Retail Industry Staff Connect Union
345.	Exhibition Industry Marketing Staff Association
346.	Kwai Tsing Community Practitioners Union
347.	The Association of Hong Kong Private and International Schools Technicians
348.	Hong Kong Freelancer Service Union
349.	The Employees Association of The Hongkong Post
350.	Hong Kong Health Care Staff Union
351.	Hong Kong Managerial Staff General Union
352.	Financial Services and Information Technology Staff Union
353.	Hong Kong Fresh Meat Industry Workers Union
354.	Hong Kong Community Service Employees Association
355.	Hong Kong Film Publicists Union
356.	Hong Kong Private Practice Prosthetists and Orthotists General Union
357.	Information and Communications Technology Industry Professionals Association
358.	Manual Therapy, Tui-na and Massage Tutors Union
359.	Hong Kong Corporate and Finance Legal Practitioners Union
360.	Innovative Education Teachers Association
361.	Southern District Community Service Employees Union

	Name of trade union*
362.	Association of Swimming Coaches
363.	Clerical and Administrative Workers Association
364.	Hong Kong Medical Service Employees Union
365.	Hong Kong Insurance Industry Staff Association
366.	Hong Kong Wholesale Banking Staff Union
367.	E-commerce and Information Technology Practitioners Union
368.	Hong Kong Financial Services Professionals General Union
369.	Pan-Ocean Ship Trading and Marine Industries Workers Union
370.	The Kwong Wah Hospital Radiologists' Association
371.	Association of Elderly Service Social Workers
372.	Financial Industry Legal Compliance and Risk Officers' Association
373.	Hong Kong Experienced Lawyers Alliance
374.	Association of Innovative Finance and Information Technology Professionals
375.	Hong Kong Social Welfare & Community Service Workers Association
376.	Financial Industry Personnel Alliance
377.	Corporate Management Staff Union
378.	Hong Kong Legal and Compliance Services Employees Association
379.	Hong Kong Union of Food Hygiene Instructors
380.	Association of Public Light Buses Employees
381.	Board Secretary and Company Secretary Industry Staff Union
382.	Union of Professional Community Service Coordinators
383.	Manufacturing And Import And Export Practitioners Mutual Aid Association
384.	Tourism and Study Tour Staff Union
385.	Civil Servants Alliance
386.	Real Estate Staff Alliance
387.	Hong Kong Business Promotion and Management Employees Association
388.	Hong Kong Clerical Work and Administration Personnel Union
389.	Hong Kong and Kowloon Accounting and Clerical Staff Association
390.	Engineering and Maintenance Workers Association
391.	Financial Employees Association
392.	In-house Legal Practitioners Union
393.	Hong Kong Publishers Staff Union
394.	Information Technology and Communications Professionals Union
395.	Security and Guarding Industries Staff Union
396.	General Union of Senior Postal Officers of Hongkong Post
397.	Fibre Network Engineering Employees Union
398.	Hong Kong Christian Organization Staff Association
399.	Hong Kong Business Enterprise Management and Executives Association
400.	Hong Kong Legal Advisors General Union
401.	Hong Kong Property Agents And Construction Industry Employees General Union
402.	Hong Kong Real Estate Clerical Employees Association
403.	Hong Kong Sanitary Services Staff Union
404.	Association of Pop Music Tutors and Performers
405.	Ship Repair Workers Union
406.	Hong Kong Futian Clerical and Administrative Staff Association
407.	Staff Union of Hong Kong Air-conditioning System
408.	Hong Kong Consumer Goods Industry Staff Union

	Name of trade union*
409.	Public Light Bus Drivers Union
410.	Hong Kong Smart Hotels Staff Union
411.	Hong Kong Music Industry Practitioners Union
412.	Hong Kong Security Industry Staff Association
413.	Southern District Community Service Workers Association
414.	Union of Hong Kong Construction Workers
415.	Hong Kong Financial Industry Practitioners Union
416.	Hong Kong Cultural and Creative Industries Association
417.	Staff Union of Hong Kong Federation of Fujian Associations
418.	Business Development, Publicity and Corporate Communication Staff Union
419.	Administrative and Clerical Staff General Union
420.	Union of Building Services and Solar Power Generation Employees
421.	New Territories East Nursing Staff Union
422.	Commercial Organisation Management Staff Union
423.	Community Service Practitioners Union
424.	Association of Renovation Workers
425.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Managers and Foremen Union
426.	Hong Kong Christian Service Staff Union
427.	Property Management Staff Alliance
428.	Hong Kong Cleaning Workers Rights Union
429.	Yau Ma Tei Fruits Wholesale Practitioners Union
430.	Security Personnel Union
431.	Hong Kong Administrative and Clerical Employees Alliance
432.	Kowloon Central Cluster Physiotherapists Association
433.	PUBLIC POLICY AND POLITICS PROFESSIONALS UNION
434.	Hong Kong Rehabilitation Therapy Staff Union
435.	Hong Kong Patient Services Assistants Union
436.	Chinese Music and Culture Artists Association
437.	Entertainment and Culture Production Employees Association
438.	Hong Kong Streaming Media Technology Workers Union
439.	Hong Kong Clerical, Administrative and Executive Employees Union
440.	Clerical and Sales Personnel Union
441.	Hong Kong Construction and Engineering Personnel Association
442.	Hong Kong Real Estate Agents Association
443.	Hong Kong Vehicle Detailing and Repairs Staff Union
444.	Hong Kong Footwear Design and Manufacturing Industry Employees Union
445.	Air-conditioning Engineering and Maintenance Association
446.	Civil Works Practitioners Union
447.	HKSAR Government Auxiliary Force Drivers Union
448.	Chinese Medicine Physiotherapist Association
449.	Medical and Healthcare Services Staff Union
450.	Cleaning Services Practitioners Union
451.	Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service Senior Citizen Service Division (East Kowloon) Staff Association
452.	Technology Innovation and Creative Industries Staff Association
453.	Hong Kong Services Industry Employees Solidarity Union
454.	Micro-Enterprises Retail Employees Association

	Name of trade union*
455.	Hong Kong Clerical and Administrative Staff Alliance
456.	Community Service Staff Association
457.	Union of Security Employees
458.	Social Dance Instructors Association
459.	Electrical Practitioners Association
460.	Community Service Administrative and Clerical Staff Association
461.	Tai Kok Tsui Community Services Employees Association
462.	Hong Kong Environmental and Sustainable Development Practitioners Union
463.	Construction Industry Employees Solidarity Union
464.	Climbing Arborists Staff Union
465.	Green Tree Ring Staff Trade Union
466.	Arboricultural Part Time Employees Union
467.	Hong Kong Private Medical Clinic Employees Union
468.	Tree Risk Assessment Staff Union
469.	Hong Kong Social Workers Alliance
470.	Hong Kong Housekeeping Employees Association
471.	Hong Kong Retail Industry Staff General Union
472.	Hong Kong Catering Industry Employees Union
473.	Hong Kong Medical Industry Staff Association
474.	Hong Kong Renovation Practitioners Union
475.	Hong Kong Clerical Personnel and Secretary Association
476.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Concrete Workers Association
477.	Construction Industry and Building Services Workers Union
478.	Hong Kong Secretaries and Administrators Association
479.	Physiotherapy Professionals Alliance
480.	Tile Decoration Practitioners Union
481.	Shotcretors Association
482.	Hong Kong Security Management Services Personnel Union
483.	Security and Escort Services Personnel Union
484.	Construction Industry Plastering Workers Association
485.	Hong Kong Libraries Cleaning Workers Association
486.	United Alliance of Allied Health Professionals
487.	Construction Professionals and Instructors Solidarity Union
488.	XCEPT Employees Association
489.	Hong Kong Translation Practitioners Association
490.	Construction Industry Levelling Employees Union
491.	Union of Chinese Medicine Practitioners
492.	Construction Workers Rights General Union
493.	Hong Kong Construction Industry Earthwork Workers Union
494.	Association of Hong Kong Executive and Management Staff
495.	Waste Reduction and Recycling Education Practitioners Union

* Listed in the order of date of registration of trade unions.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)072

(Question Serial No. 2408)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

According to the indicators in the Controlling Officer's Report, the number of young people enrolled in the Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP) in 2020 was 3 418, lower than the 2019 figure of 4 572 "owing to the special work arrangements for government employees in light of the COVID-19 pandemic", as suggested in the remark.

What is the direct relationship between the special work arrangements for government employees and the low number of young people enrolled in YETP? What will be done by the Labour Department (LD) so that the number of participants in the coming year can meet its expectations of the programme to avoid wastage of public resources?

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

Reply:

In line with the special work arrangements for government employees under the COVID-19 pandemic, the YETP offices and service providers have adopted corresponding social distancing and infection prevention measures to reduce the risk of the disease spreading in the community. During the critical pandemic period, recruitment activities and face-to-face classes under YETP had to be suspended/cancelled. Besides, some young people refrained from going out due to the pandemic, therefore dampening their interest in joining YETP. These factors all contributed to the drop in the number of YETP trainees in the 2019/20 programme year.

In response to the development of the pandemic, service providers under YETP have turned to online learning as the mode of teaching for some pre-employment training courses with a view to ensuring that the trainees could keep to their learning schedule amid the lingering pandemic. Moreover, in case the trainees were unable to meet with the case managers in person for individual reasons, the service providers would use other means such as computer software or mobile applications to conduct initial assessments with the trainees and provide career counselling services as necessary. On the other hand, YETP Online Recruitment Day

was held during the critical pandemic period to facilitate online recruitment activities and promote the services under YETP. To attract young people to join YETP, LD started to provide a retention allowance to the trainees in the 2020/21 programme year so as to encourage them to participate and complete on-the-job training (OJT). Meanwhile, the OJT allowance payable to employers under YETP has been increased with a view to encouraging employers to provide quality OJT and hire the trainees. In addition, LD will continue to step up promotional and publicity efforts in various aspects to enhance recognition for YETP.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)073

(Question Serial No. 1019)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the Supplementary Labour Scheme (SLS), please provide the following information:

- (a) Please set out in table form the respective numbers of workers involved in the applications received and approved by the Labour Department (LD) under SLS in each of the past 3 years, with breakdowns by industry, job title, monthly wage level and nationality.
- (b) Given the serious unemployment problem in Hong Kong over the past year, has LD put in place any special measures to ensure that the SLS applications are in line with the policy direction of safeguarding the employment priority of Hong Kong people?

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) Breakdowns of the numbers of imported workers applied for by employers and approved under SLS by industry, job title and monthly wage in 2018, 2019 and 2020 are at Annexes 1 to 5. Employers need not provide information about the nationality of prospective imported workers when they submit SLS applications. In approving individual applications, LD does not stipulate the nationality of these workers and thus has no information relating to the nationality of imported workers.
- (b) It is the established policy of the Government that employers must accord employment priority to local workers. Only employers with genuine difficulties in local recruitment may be allowed to import workers. To uphold the principle of ensuring employment priority for local workers, employers are required under SLS to launch a four-week local recruitment exercise to accord priority to filling job vacancies with local workers.

During the local recruitment exercise, employers shall advertise the vacancies in local newspapers while LD will concurrently conduct job matching for the vacancies concerned and refer local job seekers to employers for interview. LD will also widely disseminate the vacancy information to relevant labour unions and training bodies, inviting them to refer suitable job seekers for application.

To strengthen and monitor the local recruitment exercise under SLS, LD has implemented 3 enhancement measures since June 2020, including: (i) centralising all interview arrangements of the local recruitment exercise under SLS; (ii) requiring employers to provide interview results in writing; and (iii) enhancing the dissemination of job vacancy information so as to ensure that employers have accorded employment priority to local workers.

Upon completion of the local recruitment exercise by employers, LD will analyse each application so as to assess the employer's sincerity in recruiting/training local workers, its genuine need for manpower, size of its local workforce, etc. LD will then invite members of the Labour Advisory Board (LAB) to give views on the recommendation made by LD. The Commissioner for Labour will thoroughly assess various factors and the views and justifications provided by LAB members, before approving or refusing the application concerned for importation of labour as appropriate.

LD will continue to uphold the principle of according employment priority to local workers and prudently process SLS applications.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020:
a breakdown by industry**

Industry	No. of imported workers applied for*			No. of imported workers approved*		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1. Agriculture and Fishing	886	970	1 072	705	797	780
2. Manufacturing	390	485	274	158	176	192
3. Construction	351	561	46	589	172	218
4. Wholesale, Retail and Import/Export Trades, Restaurants and Hotels	483	448	290	197	270	228
5. Transport, Storage and Communications	68	131	38	24	9	16
6. Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	168	73	8	19	28	18
7. Community, Social and Personal Services	2 749	2 053	2 476	1 533	1 926	1 671
Total	5 095	4 721	4 204	3 225	3 378	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	2 108	1 409
2. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	553	448
3. Gardening Worker	315	247
4. Cook	302	155
5. Machine Operator	165	57
6. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	112	69
7. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	87	79
8. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	79	38
9. Waste Handling Worker	72	19
10. Others	1 302	704
Total	5 095	3 225

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2019:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	1 707	1 718
2. Gardening Worker	483	353
3. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	480	435
4. Cook	291	170
5. Machine Operator	240	83
6. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	105	86
7. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	102	73
8. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	45	37
9. Waste Handling Worker	43	45
10. Others	1 225	378
Total	4 721	3 378

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2020:
a breakdown by job title**

Job title	No. of imported workers applied for*	No. of imported workers approved*
1. Care Worker (Elderly Service)	2 199	1 511
2. Livestock/Poultry/Fish/Crop Farm Worker	625	474
3. Gardening Worker	437	305
4. Cook	207	158
5. Care Worker (Disabled Service)	117	90
6. Machine Operator	107	75
7. Bean Curd/Soya Bean/ Bean Sprout Processing Worker	81	73
8. Quality Controller/Inspector/Control Supervisor	69	50
9. Waste Handling Worker	66	23
10. Others	296	364
Total	4 204	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

**Number of imported workers applied for and approved
under SLS in 2018, 2019 and 2020:
a breakdown by monthly wage**

Monthly wage	No. of imported workers applied for*			No. of imported workers approved*		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
1. \$8,000 or below	4	3	-	-	-	-
2. Above \$8,000-\$10,000	778	197	13	453	194	34
3. Above \$10,000-\$12,000	397	544	735	607	374	513
4. Above \$12,000-\$14,000	2 603	2 378	2 868	1 278	2 211	1 981
5. Above \$14,000-\$16,000	280	225	127	41	68	69
6. Above \$16,000-\$18,000	337	468	231	125	190	153
7. Above \$18,000-\$20,000	205	179	70	87	60	63
8. Above \$20,000	491	727	160	634	281	310
Total	5 095	4 721	4 204	3 225	3 378	3 123

* The vetting of applications received towards year-end may be completed in the following year, and hence the number of imported workers approved within the year does not correspond to the number of imported workers applied for in the same year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)074

(Question Serial No. 1020)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Safety and Health at Work

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

What was the number of consultations at the occupational health clinics of the Labour Department (LD) in 2020? Please provide breakdowns by industry to which the patients belonged as well as type of diseases and body parts affected (e.g. musculoskeletal diseases of the hand and the lower limb, skin diseases, respiratory diseases, etc.). How many of these cases were confirmed as occupational diseases? Please provide breakdowns by industry to which the patients belonged and type of occupational diseases (including occupational diseases, occupational deafness, silicosis, asbestosis, mesothelioma, etc. specified in the Second Schedule to the Employees' Compensation Ordinance).

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

In 2020, the number of new patients who sought consultation at LD's occupational health clinics was 730. Breakdowns by industry to which the patients belonged and type of diseases are provided in the tables below:

By industry

Industry	2020	
Public administration, and social and personal services	311	42.6%
Wholesale, retail and import/export trades, and accommodation and food services	147	20.1%
Financing, insurance, real estate, and professional and business services	116	15.9%
Transportation, storage, postal, courier services, and information and communications	61	8.4%
Manufacturing	31	4.2%
Construction	46	6.3%
Others	18	2.5%
Total	730	100.0%

By type of diseases (including injuries)

Type of diseases	2020	
Musculoskeletal	627	86.0%
Injury	64	8.8%
Auditory	10	1.4%
Neurological	9	1.2%
Skin	4	0.5%
Respiratory	4	0.5%
Visual	4	0.5%
Others	8	1.1%
Total	730	100.0%

Among the new patients who sought consultation at LD's occupational health clinics in 2020, there was 1 confirmed case of occupational diseases where the patient was diagnosed with tenosynovitis of the hand or forearm. The industry to which the patient belonged was public administration, and social and personal services.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)075

(Question Serial No. 1022)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the work of the Labour Department (LD) on safeguarding employees' rights and benefits, would the Government:

- (a) provide in the table below the number of employees' compensation (EC) claims reported under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (ECO) and received by LD and the number of successful claims in each of the past 5 years, with a breakdown by number of working days lost and number of employees who were able to resume their original positions after taking work injury sick leave in such cases:

Number of working days lost	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	Cases received	Cases settled	Cases received	Cases settled	Cases received	Cases settled	Cases received	Cases settled	Cases received	Cases settled
Not more than 3 days										
More than 3 but less than 90 days										
90 to less than 180 days										
180 to less than 360 days										
360 to less than 720 days										
720 days or more										
Total										

- (b) provide the number of successful claims among the EC claims reported under ECO and the total amount of employees' compensation involved in the past 5 years, with a breakdown by industry.

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) From 2016 to 2020, the number of EC claims reported under ECO and received by LD in each year is set out at Annex 1. The number of settled compensation claims involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days as a result of work injuries (including compensation claims reported to LD under ECO in or before the respective settlement year) with a breakdown by number of working days lost is set out at Annex 2.

If the work injury sick leave of an employee does not exceed 3 days and no permanent incapacity is involved, the employer should make direct payment of compensation to the employee in accordance with ECO. LD does not keep a breakdown by number of working days lost for this type of cases. Moreover, LD does not keep statistics on employees who were able to resume their original positions after taking work injury sick leave.

- (b) From 2016 to 2020, the number of compensation claims settled in each year involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days as a result of work injuries (including compensation claims reported to LD under ECO in or before the respective settlement year) and the amount of compensation involved, with a breakdown by industry, are set out at Annex 3 and Annex 4 respectively.

**Number of EC claims
reported under ECO and received by LD from 2016 to 2020**

Duration of incapacitation of employees	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Not more than 3 days	15 134	14 645	14 789	14 641	10 269
More than 3 days*	36 420	36 463	36 788	33 780	28 487
Total	51 554	51 108	51 577	48 421	38 756

* Figures include fatal cases.

Number of settled compensation claims involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days as a result of work injuries from 2016 to 2020 with a breakdown by number of working days lost

No. of working days lost*	No. of settled compensation claims (including compensation claims reported to LD under ECO in or before the respective settlement year)				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Below 90 days	26 686	25 251	25 909	24 745	18 544
90 to below 180 days	2 787	2 741	2 788	2 710	1 731
180 to below 360 days	2 366	2 296	2 548	2 585	1 767
360 to below 720 days	1 956	1 801	1 881	2 083	1 726
720 days or more	1	2	1	4	1
Cases to which the calculation of working days lost is not applicable [^]	4 105	4 265	4 040	4 246	3 350
Total	37 901	36 356	37 167	36 373	27 119

* The number of working days lost includes both the number of sick leave days granted and taken and the period of absence from duty certified to be necessary by the Employees' Compensation Assessment Board under ECO.

[^] Including fatal cases, cases of compensation claims withdrawn by employees and cases that cannot be further processed owing to non-contact of employees, etc.

Number of settled compensation claims involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days as a result of work injuries from 2016 to 2020 with a breakdown by industry

Industry	No. of settled compensation claims (including compensation claims reported to LD under ECO in or before the respective settlement year)				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Public Administration, Social and Personal Services	7 909	7 406	7 811	7 787	5 881
Finance and Insurance, Real Estate, Professional and Business Services	7 167	7 178	7 252	7 230	5 802
Food and Beverage Services	5 846	5 726	5 766	5 478	3 786
Import/Export, Wholesale and Retail Trades, Accommodation Services	5 462	5 028	5 196	4 747	3 541
Transportation, Storage, Postal and Courier Services, Information and Communications	4 356	4 240	4 414	4 692	3 127
Construction	4 093	3 977	4 011	3 867	2 915
Manufacturing	2 207	1 956	1 862	1 817	1 312
Others	861	845	855	755	755
Total	37 901	36 356	37 167	36 373	27 119

**Amount of compensation involved in the settled compensation claims
involving incapacitation of employees for more than 3 days
as a result of work injuries from 2016 to 2020
with a breakdown by industry**

Industry	Amount of compensation involved in the settled compensation claims (including compensation claims reported to LD under ECO in or before the respective settlement year)				
	2016 (\$million)	2017 (\$million)	2018 (\$million)	2019 (\$million)	2020 (\$million)
Public Administration, Social and Personal Services	286.7	298.2	296.7	334.5	225.1
Finance and Insurance, Real Estate, Professional and Business Services	191.7	212.8	233.4	230.1	199.0
Food and Beverage Services	114.4	112.1	131.3	136.3	95.2
Import/Export, Wholesale and Retail Trades, Accommodation Services	154.9	137.8	152.6	151.9	110.1
Transportation, Storage, Postal and Courier Services, Information and Communications	221.5	198.1	205.6	218.3	168.1
Construction	521.3	532.1	603.9	610.8	434.5
Manufacturing	79.1	67.8	74.5	72.1	56.6
Others	33.1	24.8	25.6	29.5	29.4
Total*	1,602.7	1,583.7	1,723.5	1,783.4	1,318.1

* Figures may not add up to the totals owing to rounding.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)076

(Question Serial No. 1026)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the work of the Labour Department (LD) on administering the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund (PWIF), please advise whether LD knows the numbers of applications for ex gratia payment received, processed and approved by PWIF and the number of employees involved for each month in the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

The number of cases for ex gratia payment received by PWIF and the number of employees involved by month from 2018 to 2020 are set out at Annex 1. The numbers of applications for ex gratia payment processed and approved by PWIF by month over the same period are set out at Annex 2. LD does not keep the number of cases with ex gratia payment granted.

**Number of cases for ex gratia payment received by PWIF and
number of employees involved by month from 2018 to 2020**

Month	No. of cases received	No. of employees involved
January 2018	40	168
February 2018	34	162
March 2018	41	220
April 2018	22	112
May 2018	40	127
June 2018	26	164
July 2018	41	203
August 2018	41	215
September 2018	37	237
October 2018	39	279
November 2018	52	247
December 2018	28	142
January 2019	36	303
February 2019	34	196
March 2019	48	539
April 2019	42	231
May 2019	36	171
June 2019	42	178
July 2019	34	151
August 2019	43	256
September 2019	38	146
October 2019	65	304
November 2019	48	375
December 2019	46	321
January 2020	57	324
February 2020	26	148
March 2020	22	166
April 2020	21	196
May 2020	30	338
June 2020	31	275
July 2020	54	283
August 2020	7	108
September 2020	71	431
October 2020	63	256
November 2020	49	247
December 2020	34	248

**Numbers of applications for ex gratia payment processed and approved by PWIF
by month from 2018 to 2020**

Month	No. of applications for ex gratia payment processed*	No. of applications for ex gratia payment approved*
January 2018	193	166
February 2018	124	116
March 2018	149	135
April 2018	165	153
May 2018	156	132
June 2018	140	130
July 2018	162	144
August 2018	91	78
September 2018	101	66
October 2018	164	151
November 2018	278	258
December 2018	178	160
January 2019	202	183
February 2019	100	73
March 2019	141	100
April 2019	357	326
May 2019	247	202
June 2019	152	131
July 2019	284	268
August 2019	321	298
September 2019	448	406
October 2019	303	293
November 2019	135	91
December 2019	175	153
January 2020	180	158
February 2020	120	108
March 2020	245	232
April 2020	205	194
May 2020	206	188
June 2020	330	297
July 2020	230	179
August 2020	199	124
September 2020	302	274
October 2020	285	264
November 2020	239	213
December 2020	212	197

* Including applications received in the same year or before.

Note: Applications are reckoned on a per-employee basis. Hence, the number of applications is the same as the number of employees involved.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)077****(Question Serial No. 1034)**

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Labour Relations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Relations Division (LRD) of the Labour Department (LD) renders conciliation service to employers and employees. What were the respective numbers of labour disputes and claims received by LRD and the number of employees involved in each of the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 6)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

From 2018 to 2020, the numbers of labour disputes (i.e. cases involving over 20 employees) and claims (i.e. cases involving 20 or less employees) handled by LD and the number of employees involved are provided in the table below.

	2018	2019	2020
No. of labour disputes (No. of employees involved)	90 (17 353)	76 (15 837)	85 (22 152)
No. of claims (No. of employees involved)	13 691 (19 060)	13 755 (19 419)	10 991 (15 674)

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)078

(Question Serial No. 1038)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Last year, the Labour Department (LD) continued to encourage employers to hire the elderly and middle-aged, young people and persons with disabilities through the Employment Programme for the Elderly and Middle-aged (EPEM), the Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP) and the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme (WOPS), and raised the ceiling of the on-the-job training (OJT) allowance under these programmes in September. Regarding the above programmes, please provide the following information:

- (a) the number of employees participating in the above 3 programmes, the retention rate upon completion of the OJT period, and the respective average amounts of OJT allowance and retention allowance granted to each employee last year;
- (b) whether LD has assessed the effectiveness of raising the amount of training allowance from September 2020 in encouraging employers to participate in the above programmes.

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

LD enhanced EPEM, YETP and WOPS in September 2020 by raising the ceiling of OJT allowance granted to employers and providing a retention allowance to eligible employees under these programmes. As regards the Member's question, the information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) No prior registration under EPEM is required for employees as relevant registration can be made by their employers after they have secured employment from vacancies placed with LD. In 2020, there were 2 260 placements eligible for joining EPEM. In the 2020-21 financial year (up to February 2021), the average amount of OJT allowance granted to employers for each placement was \$12,996.

YETP operates on the basis of programme year, running from September each year to August of the following year. In the past programme year (i.e. the 2019/20 programme year), the number of trainees placed into OJT vacancies under YETP was 1 435. In the 2020-21 financial year (up to February 2021), the average amount of OJT allowance granted to employers for each placement was \$34,299.

No prior registration under WOPS is required for employees as relevant registration can be made by their employers after they have secured employment in the jobs referred by the Selective Placement Division of LD. In 2020, there were 809 placements recorded under WOPS. In the 2020-21 financial year (up to February 2021), the average amount of OJT allowance granted to employers for each placement under WOPS was \$19,120.

The OJT period under the above 3 employment programmes can last for 9 to 12 months. As the OJT period for a considerable number of placements recorded in 2020 has not ended yet, figures on the retention period are incomplete. Similarly, as the retention allowance was introduced in September 2020 and the OJT period for a considerable number of placements has not ended yet, figures on the amount of retention allowance are incomplete.

- (b) The ceiling of OJT allowance granted to employers under the above 3 employment programmes was raised on 1 September 2020. As the new allowance ceiling has been introduced for only a short time, it is not feasible for the time being to fully assess the effectiveness of increasing the amount of allowance.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)079

(Question Serial No. 1041)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The number of cases related to imported workers under the Supplementary Labour Scheme (SLS) investigated by the Labour Department (LD) has nearly doubled from 49 cases in 2019 to 87 cases in 2020. What are the reasons? What are the details of the investigations?

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

LD has all along been adopting a multi-pronged strategy, including education and promotion, inspection, enforcement, etc., to safeguard the rights and benefits of imported workers under labour laws, SLS and the Standard Employment Contract (SEC) prescribed under SLS. During inspections, labour inspectors inquire of and explain to imported workers their rights under the Employment Ordinance and SEC, and distribute to them on the spot information cards on protection of employment rights to facilitate their enquiries or complaints with relevant law enforcement departments/organisations when necessary. LD has also enhanced the explanation of briefings on employment rights for imported workers with a view to ensuring their understanding of employment rights and benefits. In addition, LD has, since 1 June 2020, incorporated the scope of duties of imported workers' posts into SEC so that imported workers can have a clearer understanding of their scope of work. The above measures serve to enhance imported workers' understanding of their employment rights and the right to make a complaint as necessary. This may have contributed to the increase in investigation cases concerning imported workers under SLS in 2020.

In the process of investigation, if an employer is suspected of breaching labour laws and/or the requirements under SEC, LD will conduct prompt follow-up investigations. In general, LD will, depending on the circumstances of breaches, issue warning letters to the employers concerned. Prosecution will be brought against offending employers where there is sufficient evidence.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)080

(Question Serial No. 1043)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

It is mentioned in the estimates of expenditure that there were “changes in parameters of the placement survey” of the Labour Department (LD) in 2020. Would LD further elaborate on the reasons for the changes in parameters, the specific details of the changes and the impact on placement statistics?

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

LD projects the number of job seekers who secure placements through direct application to employers by conducting periodic sample surveys with employers advertising vacancies via LD. At present, many of the employers who advertise vacancies via LD concurrently use other recruitment channels for the same vacancy. When reviewing the placement survey in 2019, LD revised the parameters in data analysis and made enhancement targeting the scenario where employers used other recruitment channels to advertise for the same vacancy. The changes will help project more accurately the placement figures obtained from the above placement survey.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)081****(Question Serial No. 1090)**Head: (90) Labour DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (3) Safety and Health at WorkControlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and WelfareQuestion:

It is mentioned in the Controlling Officer's Report that in 2020, the Labour Department (LD) conducted special enforcement operations (SEOs) in several areas, including electrical works, cargo and container handling works, waste management, etc. Since LD is not the only regulatory authority for the above work, please advise of the following:

- (a) Were there other government departments participating in the above SEOs? If yes, please provide in table form the government departments involved in SEOs and the number of related inspections? If not, what are the reasons?
- (b) Apart from the above SEOs, did LD conduct any joint enforcement operations with other government departments in the past 3 years? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 47)Reply:

- (a) LD will, depending on the nature and target of SEOs, conduct the operations jointly with relevant government departments. The details of government departments that participated in LD's SEOs in 2020 are as follows:

SEO	Participating government department	Number of inspections
Electrical work safety	Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD)	30
Maritime/coastal work safety	Marine Department (MD)	41

- (b) Apart from the above SEOs, LD also conducted enforcement operations with other government departments in the past 3 years, such as joint inspections and joint

investigations into complaints, accidents and dangerous occurrences. The government departments included Fire Services Department, Buildings Department, EMSD, MD and Hong Kong Police Force.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)082

(Question Serial No. 1091)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Safety and Health at Work

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

As mentioned in the Controlling Officer's Report, the Labour Department (LD) will review the operation code and guidance notes of the "Approval Conditions for Operating Mandatory Safety Training Courses" (the Approval Conditions) in 2021-22. Please advise of the following:

- (a) Is there any implementation timetable for the above review and amendment exercise? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (b) Will consultation be conducted on the amendments to the operation code and guidance notes? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (c) Regarding the implementation and enforcement of the existing operation code and guidance notes of the Approval Conditions by LD in the past 3 years, what was the number of inspections conducted by LD in this respect for each year? Apart from inspection and enforcement, has LD provided the course providers with any support measures to ensure that the training courses comply with the guidance notes and operation code which are constantly updated? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

- (a)&(b) LD is reviewing the operation code and guidance notes of the Approval Conditions and consulting the training course providers on the proposed amendments. LD also conducted 6 briefing sessions in February this year to explain to the training course providers the salient features of the proposed amendments. Subject to the progress of the consultation, LD expects to issue the revised operation code and guidance notes at the end of 2021.

- (c) To ensure the quality of different mandatory safety training courses, LD conducts monitoring inspections in different modes (including surprise inspections and covert inspections which involve inspecting officers in the guise of a course participant) to ensure that the courses are delivered in accordance with the course codes, guidance notes and Approval Conditions. From 2018 to 2020, LD conducted 240, 245 and 147 surprise inspections and 54, 49 and 31 covert inspections of the mandatory safety training courses respectively.

LD adopts different approaches to support the training course providers, including explaining to them the Approval Conditions and answering their enquiries when handling their applications for operating the mandatory safety training courses and the ensuing operational issues, etc., so as to ensure that the course providers run the courses in accordance with the Approval Conditions.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)083

(Question Serial No. 1769)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

What is the timetable for implementing the Reimbursement of Maternity Leave Pay (RMLP) Scheme as stated in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22? What are the details of submission of applications by employers?

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 82)

Reply:

The Employment (Amendment) Ordinance 2020 (Amendment Ordinance), which increased statutory maternity leave (ML) by 4 weeks, took effect on 11 December 2020. Employees whose confinement occurs on or after that date are entitled to 14 weeks' statutory ML. Employers may apply to the Government for full reimbursement of the additional ML pay that is required to be paid and has been paid under the Amendment Ordinance, subject to a cap of \$80,000 per employee.

The Labour Department (LD) appointed a processing agent at the end of 2020 to assist in the administration of the new RMLP Scheme. In collaboration with the processing agent, LD launched the RMLP Scheme on 1 April 2021. Employers, after paying employees all of the statutory ML pay according to the Employment Ordinance, may submit applications for reimbursement of the additional ML pay at the Reimbursement Easy Portal (REP) (www.rmlps.gov.hk) or by email, fax, post, etc. For the details of the Scheme and information needed for submitting applications, employers may visit REP or call the Scheme's service hotline on 2636 6353.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)084

(Question Serial No. 0054)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

As mentioned in the Budget Speech Paragraph 11, the Government has mentioned that "the unemployment rate of the construction sector has also reached a double digital level". Will the Government inform this Committee:

- (a) the latest unemployment and underemployment rate of the construction sector;
- (b) the estimated number of unemployed and underemployed in the construction industry and their specific work types;
- (c) measures that the Government will introduce so as to bring down the unemployment and underemployment rate of the construction sector with the absence of new mega infrastructural projects;
- (d) assistance that the Government has provided or will consider providing to construction sites with COVID-19 confirmed cases in different levels including construction companies, contractors, subcontractors and construction workers, etc.

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

In consultation with the Development Bureau and the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), the reply to the Member's question is as follows:

- (a) Based on the data obtained from the General Household Survey conducted by C&SD, the unemployment rate of construction industry from November 2020 to January 2021 was 11.0% (provisional figure), while the underemployment rate was 7.6% (provisional figure).

- (b) Based on the data obtained from the General Household Survey conducted by C&SD, the numbers of unemployed persons and underemployed persons in the construction industry from November 2020 to January 2021, with a breakdown by occupation, are provided below:

Occupation	No. of unemployed persons#	No. of underemployed persons#
Managers and administrators	1 100	600
Professionals	*	*
Associate professionals	3 700	*
Clerical support workers	800	*
Service and sales workers	*	*
Craft and related workers	22 500	15 900
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	*	700
Elementary occupations	10 800	9 400
Total	39 300	27 300

Note: # Provisional figures.

* Estimates less than 500 (including zero figures) are not released due to very large sampling errors.

- (c) In view of the hardship faced by the industry under the COVID-19 epidemic, the Government last year offered subsidies to construction workers and the related enterprises via two rounds of the Anti-epidemic Fund. A total of over \$6.3 billion was disbursed. The relevant funding is outside the scope of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account.

The Government will continue to invest in infrastructure. The annual capital works expenditure will exceed \$100 billion in coming years. The annual total construction output will increase to around \$300 billion, creating over 300 000 employment opportunities. The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved 86 new works projects totalling about \$144 billion in the 2019-20 legislative session. As at the end of February this year, over 90% of the projects have commenced and tendering procedures are in process for the remaining projects. With these projects coming on line, the employment situation of the construction industry is expected to improve further.

Besides, since August 2019, the Government has introduced a series of relief measures through increasing and expediting minor works projects and implementing subsidy schemes that cover building safety rehabilitation and drinking water safety. Such relief measures add up to over \$10 billion. In addition, the Government will earmark \$1 billion in the 2021-22 Budget to subsidise drainage repair works in over 3 000 old buildings. These measures not only take care of public needs but can also create job opportunities for the construction industry.

The Labour Department (LD) will continue to provide comprehensive and free employment services for job seekers and implement various employment programmes to encourage employers to hire job seekers with special employment difficulties. The

Construction Industry Recruitment Centre of LD displays a large variety of construction vacancies to enable efficient dissemination of vacancy information to construction workers, and provides a free venue for employers in the industry to conduct on-the-spot interviews with job seekers, enhancing the efficiency of job search and recruitment.

- (d) The Construction Industry Council (CIC) has joined hands with the industry to launch the Construction Industry Caring Campaign – Fight against Novel Coronavirus (Caring Campaign) to provide financial assistance and caring support for workers and their family members affected by the epidemic, helping them ride out the difficult times. Since the launch of the Caring Campaign in February last year, CIC has approved a total of over \$18 million of living subsidy for more than 3 700 eligible workers, including about 362 infected workers and other workers affected by home quarantine. CIC also mobilised volunteers in the industry to prepare and distribute over 150 000 anti-epidemic packs to workers. The Government was supportive of this task and distributed about 6 million masks to contractors through CIC in August and September last year to help site workers strengthen their anti-epidemic measures.

Meanwhile, relevant works departments of the Government will, in accordance with the existing mechanism of public works contracts, adopt flexibility in dealing with requests from contractors for extension of construction period due to the epidemic. Besides, the departments will also take the epidemic situation into consideration in making a reasonable assessment of contractors' performance in works progress.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)085

(Question Serial No. 0455)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2021-22 under Programme (2), it is mentioned that the Department will keep launching the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme to encourage enterprises to recruit and deploy local university graduates to work in the Mainland cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- (a) the estimated administrative cost and manpower involved in achieving this scheme;
- (b) the latest progress and timetable to carry out the scheme;
- (c) regarding the strict border control amidst COVID-19 pandemic, what kind of measures will the Administration introduce in order to assisting the employee working across the border?
- (d) except Greater Bay Area, will the Administration consider expanding the programme to other regions in Asia and around the world;
- (e) as an Asia World City and international financial centre, will the Administration consider making sustainable development strategy to retain talents and effectively uphold youth competitiveness in relation to international perspective and language proficiency.

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 58)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) To launch the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme, the Government allocated \$376 million from the Anti-epidemic Fund to cover payment of the allowance to

employers, publicity and promotion and administrative expenses, as well as contingency fee. Administrative expenses accounted for \$500,000 of the sum. The relevant funding is outside the scope of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account. The scheme is implemented through internal staff deployment within the Government. As the staff concerned also undertake other duties, the manpower and expenditure involved cannot be separately identified.

- (b) Launched on 8 January 2021, the scheme provides 2 000 places. It has received active support from many employer associations and enterprises soon after its launch. As at 28 February, 204 enterprises have offered a total of 1 512 job vacancies (including 721 general posts and 791 innovation and technology posts). The Scheme Secretariat has progressively uploaded the vetted vacancies to the dedicated website of the scheme starting from 21 January for open application by eligible graduates. The employed graduates shall start employment in or before August 2021.
- (c) The scheme requires the enterprises to deploy the employed graduates to station and work in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area, rather than arranging them to shuttle across the boundary for work. The graduates may undergo general quarantine arrangements at control points to go to the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area for work.
- (d) With its huge development potential, the Greater Bay Area not only will give new impetus to the future economic development of Hong Kong, but will also be where major opportunities for Hong Kong's economic recovery after the pandemic lie. The scheme offers an opportunity for Hong Kong young people to develop their career, expand their social networks, accumulate work experience and gain first-hand experience of the rapid development of the Greater Bay Area. It also helps the enterprises harness their strengths and integrate into the overall development of the country. As the scheme has been launched for only a short period of time, the Government will closely monitor its implementation and conduct reviews in a timely manner. In the meantime, there is no plan to expand the scheme to other regions.
- (e) The Government attaches great importance to nurturing, attracting and retaining talents and is committed to developing young people's international perspective and language proficiency. Overseas exchange and internship programmes are conducive to broadening the horizons of Hong Kong young people. For youth exchange, the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) provides sponsorship to non-governmental organisations to organise international youth exchange projects under the Funding Scheme for International Youth Exchange. In 2019-20, the scheme has supported 77 international youth exchange projects, covering over 40 different countries. Besides, HAB arranges reciprocal youth exchanges with different countries under the International Youth Exchange Programme to provide opportunities for Hong Kong young people to broaden their international horizon and exchange ideas and experiences with local youth, benefitting about 100 Hong Kong young people each year. On youth internship, HAB forged partnership with local major companies to launch the Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas to enhance our young people's understanding of the workplace culture and career prospects outside Hong Kong, enable them to expand their interpersonal networks, and help them gain wider exposure to the current socioeconomic landscape at both the national and international levels. In 2019,

about 50 participants had undertaken internship in the overseas operations of these companies. Subject to the development of the epidemic, the Government will resume the international exchange and internship activities once it is safe and practicable to do so.

In addition, the Education Bureau (EDB) currently provides a subsidy to those enrolled in full-time locally-accredited undergraduate and sub-degree programmes through the Scheme for Subsidy on Exchange for Post-secondary Students and the Scheme for Subsidy on Exchange to “Belt and Road” Regions for Post-secondary Students to encourage them to participate in overseas exchange activities and to broaden their global horizons.

EDB has launched the Hong Kong Scholarship for Excellence Scheme (HKSES) since the 2015/16 academic year to support up to 100 outstanding local students per cohort to pursue studies at world-renowned universities outside Hong Kong, with a view to grooming a top cadre of talents with global vision, international network and world-class education, thereby ultimately enhancing Hong Kong’s competitiveness as Asia’s World City in a globalised knowledge economy. Since its launch, around 570 students have been awarded scholarships under HKSES to pursue undergraduate or postgraduate studies at renowned universities outside Hong Kong.

On the other hand, since 2001, Hong Kong has established bilateral Working Holiday Scheme (WHS) arrangements with 14 economies, namely New Zealand, Australia, Ireland, Germany, Japan, Canada, Korea, France, the United Kingdom, Austria, Hungary, Sweden, the Netherlands and Italy. WHS enables Hong Kong youths aged between 18 and 30 to broaden their horizons and acquire a better understanding of the cultural and social developments of the host economies by travelling and working overseas. As at the end of 2020, around 97 000 Hong Kong youths have participated in WHS.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)086

(Question Serial No. 1702)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (1) Labour Relations
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Department (LD) has stated that the major new plans for 2021-22 include continuing to pursue the legislative proposal for abolishing the “offsetting” arrangement with a view to coming up with the bills for introduction into the Legislative Council (LegCo). Would the Government provide the details of the work, including the timetable, how to consult the stakeholders, and the manpower and expenditure to be allocated?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 47)

Reply:

The Government continues to take forward the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement, including drafting the legislation and thrashing out the operational details of the supporting measures. The Government plans to introduce the bills for the abolition of the “offsetting” of severance payment (SP) and long service payment (LSP) by the accrued benefits of employers’ mandatory contributions under the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) System into LegCo in the next legislative year with a view to securing their passage in mid-2022. During LegCo’s deliberation on the bills, the community will be able to ascertain the Government’s financial commitment in relation to employers’ expenses on SP/LSP, and the implementation details of and timetable for the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement. The community can also provide feedback or suggestions through the established consultation arrangements of LegCo. The Government plans to implement the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement in tandem with the full implementation of the eMPF Platform of the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority in 2025.

In 2021-22, LD will have a total staff establishment of 21 posts, including 13 Labour Officer Grade posts (i.e. 1 Chief Labour Officer, 4 Senior Labour Officers, 6 Labour Officers and 2 Assistant Labour Officers I), 3 Analyst/Programmer Grade posts (i.e. 1 Systems Manager, 1 Analyst/Programmer I and 1 Analyst/Programmer II), 2 Treasury Accountant Grade posts (i.e. 1 Chief Treasury Accountant and 1 Senior Treasury Accountant), 2 Clerical Officer Grade posts (i.e. 1 Clerical Officer and 1 Assistant Clerical Officer) and 1 Personal Secretary

Grade post, for carrying out the work relating to the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement. The salary cost for the above 21 posts will be \$23.29 million. The expenditure (excluding the salary cost for staff) will be \$4.322 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)087

(Question Serial No. 1703)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Labour Relations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Department (LD) has stated that the major new plans for 2021-22 include pursuing a proposal to increase progressively the number of statutory holidays (SHs) under the Employment Ordinance (EO). Would the Government provide the details of the work, including the timetable, how to consult the stakeholders, and the manpower and expenditure to be allocated?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 48)

Reply:

Regarding the progressive increase in the number of SHs under EO, the proposal formulated by the Government includes designating the first additional SH in 2022 and increasing one additional day of SH every 2 years, so that the number of SHs will be on a par with the number of general holidays other than Sundays. The Government introduced the enabling bill into the Legislative Council for scrutiny on 17 March 2021.

LD has budgeted for the creation of 2 time-limited posts in 2021-22, including 1 Senior Labour Officer post for 2 years and 1 Assistant Labour Officer I post for 3 years, to handle the related work. The total annual salary cost for the above 2 time-limited posts is about \$2.32 million for the first 2 years and about \$0.81 million for the third year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)088****(Question Serial No. 1704)**Head: (90) Labour DepartmentSubhead (No. & title):Programme: (2) Employment ServicesControlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and WelfareQuestion:

The Labour Department (LD) has stated that the major new plans for 2021-22 include launching the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme to encourage enterprises to recruit and deploy local university graduates to work in the Mainland cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. What were the total numbers of enterprises (set out in a table by nature of business) and graduates (set out in a table by field of education) that have expressed their intention to join the scheme to date? What are the staff establishment and estimates of the itemised expenditure for the related work?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 49)Reply:

As at 28 February 2021, 204 enterprises have joined the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme, offering a total of 1 512 job vacancies. The Scheme Secretariat has vetted and displayed 1 295 job vacancies. The number of vetted and displayed job vacancies, with a breakdown by nature of business, is provided as follows:

Industry	No. of vacancies
Business services	415
Manufacture of electronic parts	146
Finance	127
Communication	100
Import and export trades	71
Real estates	61
Other non-manufacturing industry	262
Other manufacturing industry	113
Total	1 295

The Scheme Secretariat has progressively uploaded the vetted vacancies to the dedicated website of the scheme starting from 21 January for open application by eligible young people.

As at 28 February, job seekers had submitted a total of 1 011 applications for the job vacancies under the scheme using the online job application function of the website. LD does not keep a breakdown by field of education of the job seekers. Moreover, the scheme allows enterprises to conduct recruitment through different channels. Job seekers may submit their job applications directly to the participating employers without using the Interactive Employment Service (iES) website of LD. Therefore, the above number of online job applications submitted via the iES website of LD does not reflect the overall applications or the graduates' participation under the scheme.

To launch the scheme, the Government allocated \$376 million from the Anti-epidemic Fund to cover an estimated expenditure of \$360 million on allowance for employers and an estimated expenditure of \$16 million on publicity and promotion and administrative expenses, as well as contingency fee. The relevant funding is outside the scope of the Appropriation Bill or the estimates of the General Revenue Account. The scheme is implemented through internal staff deployment within the Government. As the staff concerned also undertake other duties, the manpower and expenditure involved cannot be separately identified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)089

(Question Serial No. 1705)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Department (LD) has stated that it will strengthen liaison with employers with recruitment needs to enhance job matching and stage more thematic job fairs to help job seekers secure employment in 2021-22. Would LD provide the relevant details, including the contents, indicators, timetable and breakdown of estimates of expenditure for the plans?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 50)

Reply:

In 2021-22, LD will strengthen liaison with employers and employers' associations in various industries and, in light of the employment market situation and the demand and supply of job vacancies in different locations, etc., provide a wide range of recruitment services such as staging more thematic job fairs for industries with recruitment needs. These industries may include estate management, cleansing service, elderly care service, food processing, etc. Moreover, LD will closely monitor the latest employment market situation and promote recruitment services among employers in emerging industries and industries flourishing under the "new normal" brought about by the pandemic. LD will also step up efforts to collect job vacancy information from employers with recruitment needs, and disseminate vacancies through various channels so as to help job seekers with different backgrounds secure employment.

In 2021-22, the estimated expenditure for staging large-scale thematic job fairs is \$2.17 million. The expenditure for staging district-based thematic job fairs is absorbed within the recurrent operational expenses of LD and cannot be separately identified.

LD will continue to liaise with employers in various industries, and work out the details and timetable for the thematic job fairs in light of the employment market situation, recruitment needs of various industries and development of the pandemic.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)090

(Question Serial No. 1706)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (2) Employment Services
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Department (LD) has stated that the Higher Education Employment Information e-Platform (HEEIP) of the Department will be integrated into its Interactive Employment Service (iES) website in 2021-22 to achieve synergy in serving job seekers with higher education both within and outside Hong Kong. Would LD provide the details, indicators and estimated expenditure for the arrangement?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 51)

Reply:

To achieve synergy, LD plans to integrate HEEIP into the iES website to serve job seekers with higher education both within and outside Hong Kong in the third quarter of 2021. This enhancement measure makes use of the popularity of the iES website to attract job seekers to view the information on the Platform, while at the same time reducing manpower and expenditure in running the Platform independently. The view counts of HEEIP before and after the implementation of the arrangement will be used as an indicator of its effectiveness. LD has earmarked a one-off expenditure of \$300,000 for engaging information technology contract staff, and will accomplish the work through internal deployment of manpower and resources.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)091

(Question Serial No. 1707)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (3) Safety and Health at Work
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Department (LD) has stated that the major new plans for 2021-22 include intensifying preventive and enforcement efforts to tackle fall-from-height hazards and other work hazards in workplaces through executing targeted inspection strategies, encouraging reports on unsafe working condition, etc., especially for the construction industry. Would the Government advise of:

- (a) the respective numbers of non-compliant employers and employees against whom enforcement was conducted in each of the past 5 years (please set out in table form with a breakdown by occupation); and
- (b) the preventive and enforcement efforts planned to be conducted against employers and employees respectively, as well as the staff establishment and estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 52)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) The number of prosecutions taken out by LD from 2016 to 2020 with a breakdown by duty holder and industry is provided in the table below:

Industry	Duty holder	No. of prosecutions taken out				
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Construction	Employers (including occupiers of premises)	1 850	2 354	2 495	2 274	1 911
	Employees	18	16	28	31	103
	Other persons*	-	-	1	-	1
Food and beverage services	Employers (including occupiers of premises)	337	269	320	403	372
	Employees	-	-	-	-	-
Others	Employers (including occupiers of premises)	398	346	311	295	345
	Employees	2	9	7	5	7
Total		2 605	2 994	3 162	3 008	2 739

Note:

* “Other persons” refers to competent examiners and competent persons under the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance and its subsidiary regulations.

LD does not keep a statistical breakdown of prosecutions taken out by occupation.

LD also issued suspension notices and improvement notices to employers (including occupiers of premises). This kind of enforcement does not apply to employees.

The numbers of improvement notices and suspension notices issued by LD from 2016 to 2020 with breakdowns by industry are provided in the tables below:

	No. of improvement notices				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Construction	1 632	2 130	2 100	3 005	2 103
Food and beverage services	378	264	318	571	264
Others	389	396	398	411	376
Total	2 399	2 790	2 816	3 987	2 743

	No. of suspension notices				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Construction	621	775	600	477	321
Food and beverage services	-	3	-	-	-
Others	65	45	47	64	40
Total	686	823	647	541	361

LD does not keep a statistical breakdown of improvement notices and suspension notices by occupation.

- (b) The preventive and enforcement efforts concerned are LD's ongoing work, and the staff establishment and estimated expenditure involved cannot be separately identified.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)092

(Question Serial No. 1708)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour Department (LD) has estimated that the number of applications for payment under the Protection of Wages on Insolvency Fund (PWIF) processed will increase from 2 865 in 2019 to an estimated 4 000 in 2021. How did LD come up with the above estimated number, and what was its impact on the staff establishment and estimated expenditure?

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

Reply:

In assessing the number of applications for ex gratia payment under PWIF to be processed in 2021, LD has made reference to data on the applications received by PWIF during Hong Kong's economic downturn from 1996 to 2003, including the year-on-year increase in the number of applications, for the purpose of estimation. The year-on-year increase in the number of applications received during that period ranged from 26% to 64%, or an average yearly increase of 45%. Based on the number of applications for ex gratia payment under PWIF processed in 2020, the estimated number of applications to be processed in 2021 was projected to be about 4 000.

The number of PWIF applications has always been closely related to economic changes. If necessary, LD will increase manpower through internal deployment to handle the possible rise in the number of applications. LD and the PWIF Board will closely monitor the number of applications received by PWIF and the financial position of PWIF to ensure that it has sufficient fund balance to cope with the possible increase in the number of applications.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)093

(Question Serial No. 1177)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Labour Relations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the situation in the past 5 years (i.e. 2015-2020), please provide the following information:

- (a) the numbers of trade unions and trade union federations registered under the Trade Unions Ordinance (TUO) and the number of trade unions newly registered each year;
- (b) the staff establishment and expenditure for conducting inspections and visits to trade unions and handling TUO-related matters each year; and
- (c) the numbers of complaints and reported allegations involving discrimination against trade unions received each year. Were there any employers or relevant parties found to have breached the legislation and thus prosecuted after investigation? If yes, what were the types of industries, complaints and reported cases involved?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 33)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) The numbers of trade unions and trade union federations registered under TUO from 2016 to 2020 are set out at Annex 1.
- (b) The staff establishment and expenditure for conducting visits to trade unions and handling TUO-related matters by the Labour Department (LD) from 2015-16 to 2019-20 are set out at Annex 2.
- (c) The yearly numbers of claims and complaints/reported allegations involving suspected discrimination against trade unions received by LD from 2016 to 2020 were 6, 5, 3, 2 and 5 respectively. For those cases with investigation completed during the same

period, the Department of Justice advised against prosecuting the employers concerned after considering the evidence available.

Numbers of trade unions and trade union federations registered from 2016 to 2020

Year	No. of trade unions (as at year-end)	No. of trade union federations (as at year-end)
2016	879 (8)	11
2017	888 (13)	11
2018	897 (13)	11
2019	917 (25)	11
2020	1 410 (495)	12 (1)

Note: Figures in brackets denote the number of trade unions/trade union federations newly registered in the year.

Staff establishment and expenditure for conducting visits to trade unions and handling TUO-related matters from 2015-16 to 2019-20

Financial year	Staff establishment	Expenditure involved (\$million)
2015-16	17	7.53
2016-17	17	8.34
2017-18	16	8.15
2018-19	15	7.85
2019-20	15	9.99

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)094

(Question Serial No. 1190)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (4) Employees' Rights and Benefits
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

In September 2020, the Labour Department (LD) set up a dedicated Foreign Domestic Helpers (FDH) Division to ensure effective co-ordination and implementation of measures to enhance protection of FDHs and to provide better support to FDHs and their employers. Please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number of interpreters in the staff establishment of the FDH Division to assist FDHs;
- (b) the number and main type of complaint cases received from FDHs since the setting up of the Division in September; and
- (c) the approaches taken/to be taken by LD regarding promotion and education to improve FDHs' and their employers' understanding of their respective rights and obligations.

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 31)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) The staff establishment of the FDH Division of LD does not include interpreters. When handling daily duties involving interpretation and translation work (such as organising briefings for newly-arrived FDHs or producing publicity materials in FDHs' mother languages, etc.), the FDH Division will provide services to FDHs through a variety of channels, such as the consulates-general of FDHs' home countries in Hong Kong, interpretation and translation service contractors and the Centre for Harmony and Enhancement of Ethnic Minority Residents, etc.
- (b) LD set up a dedicated hotline for FDHs on 19 December 2018. It is handled by "1823" and provides one-stop support services to FDHs. LD also provides a dedicated email account and an online form on the dedicated FDH Portal (www.fdh.labour.gov.hk) for

FDHs to send in enquiries relating to their employment in Hong Kong or to file complaints. From the setting up of the FDH Division in September 2020 to the end of February 2021, the dedicated hotline received a total of 4 966 calls. Over the same period, a total of 966 emails and online forms were received through the above-mentioned dedicated email account and online form. LD does not keep a breakdown by nature of their contents. LD will offer appropriate assistance depending on individual circumstances, including: providing advice to FDHs on their employment rights and obligations under the Standard Employment Contract (SEC) and relevant labour laws; referring enquiries, requests for services or assistance or complaints on labour-related matters such as employment claims or complaints against employment agencies to the relevant divisions of LD for follow-up and/or investigation; and advising or helping FDHs to contact appropriate law enforcement agencies to file their enquiries, requests for services or assistance or complaints concerning suspected exploitation or physical abuse.

- (c) LD enhances FDHs' understanding of their rights and benefits under the Employment Ordinance and SEC through a series of publicity and educational work. LD produces practical guides, promotional leaflets and posters in a number of FDHs' mother languages, and widely distributes relevant publications to FDHs at the airport through a non-governmental organisation, the consulates-general of FDHs' home countries in Hong Kong and offices of various government departments. Moreover, LD provides relevant information through staging roving exhibitions, placing advertisements in local Indonesian and Filipino newspapers usually read by FDHs, broadcasting television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest, etc. Apart from employment rights and benefits, LD has added to its promotional messages such information as channels for seeking assistance, and widely distributes information cards to FDHs with points to note while working in Hong Kong. LD's dedicated FDH Portal, with 12 language versions available, facilitates FDHs' understanding of their entitlements before coming to work in Hong Kong. In addition, LD works closely with the consulates-general of major FDHs' home countries in Hong Kong, and has established a regular liaison mechanism for information sharing and co-ordination of related publicity and educational activities. As for employers, LD published a guide for FDH employers to explain their obligations and rights as employers, and a newsletter to introduce LD's services and support channels.

With the setting up of the FDH Division, LD will enhance the promotion and education among FDHs and their employers, including staging more information kiosks at popular gathering places of FDHs on rest days when the pandemic is over, producing more publicity materials and short videos, etc., to help both parties gain a deeper understanding of their respective rights and obligations, thereby improving mutual communication and maintaining cordial employment relationships. LD will also hold more seminars and briefings for FDHs and employers, and plans to organise other exchange activities, such as sharing sessions, to answer enquiries of FDHs and employers on the spot.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)095

(Question Serial No. 1002)

Head: (90) Labour Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Employment Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

In early 2021, the Government launched the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme to encourage and support young people to work and pursue their career in the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area. Please provide an update on the following aspects of the Scheme:

- (a) the number of participating enterprises;
- (b) the number of posts and the monthly salary range offered, with a breakdown by industry;
- (c) information on successful recruitments;
- (d) whether the Government will consider increasing the budget if applications exceeds the budget.

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 32)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) As at 28 February 2021, 204 enterprises have submitted job vacancies to the Scheme Secretariat.
- (b) As at 28 February 2021, the Scheme Secretariat has vetted and displayed 1 295 job vacancies. Breakdowns by industry and salary are provided at the Annex.
- (c) Enterprises which have successfully recruited relevant young people may submit preliminary applications for allowance. As at 28 February 2021, the Scheme Secretariat has received 25 preliminary applications for allowance.
- (d) The Government will closely monitor the implementation of the scheme, including the usage of places under the scheme, and review it in a timely manner.

**Breakdowns on job vacancies vetted and displayed
under the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme
by industry and monthly salary**

(i) By industry

Industry	No. of vacancies
Business services	415
Manufacture of electronic parts	146
Finance	127
Communication	100
Import and export trades	71
Real estates	61
Other non-manufacturing industry	262
Other manufacturing industry	113
Total	1 295

(ii) By monthly salary

Monthly salary*	No. of vacancies
\$18,000	1 025
\$18,001 - \$20,000	193
\$20,001 - \$22,000	2
\$22,001 - \$24,000	73
\$24,000 or above	2
Total	1 295

* Some employers gave a monthly salary range when providing salary information for the job vacancies. The above breakdown is based on the lower limit of the salary range for the job vacancies.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)096

(Question Serial No. 1478)

Head: (90) Labour Department
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: Not specified
Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Labour (Chris SUN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

As stated in paragraph 95 of the Budget, the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme launched early this year also provides around 700 innovation and technology (I&T) places to encourage enterprises to employ Hong Kong's university graduates so that the latter can undertake I&T-related work and receive on-the-job training in Hong Kong and another city in the Greater Bay Area. Would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the scheme's progress up to now, including the numbers of participating enterprises and young people under the scheme?
- (b) Has the Government assessed the need for enhancement of the scheme to facilitate participation of more Hong Kong young people in the scheme and thus their integration into the development of the Greater Bay Area, taking into account the impact of the current pandemic? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon YUNG Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 47)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (a) Launched on 8 January 2021, the scheme provides 2 000 places. It has received active support from many employer associations and enterprises soon after its launch. As at 28 February, there were 204 enterprises offering 1 512 job vacancies in total.

The Scheme Secretariat has progressively uploaded the vetted vacancies to the dedicated website of the scheme starting from 21 January 2021 for open application by eligible young people. As at 28 February, job seekers have submitted a total of 1 011 applications for the job vacancies under the scheme using the online job application function of the website. The scheme allows enterprises to conduct recruitment through different channels. Job seekers may submit their job applications directly to the

participating employers without using the Interactive Employment Service (iES) website of the Labour Department (LD). Therefore, the above number of online job applications submitted via the iES website of LD does not reflect the overall applications under the scheme.

- (b) It is too early to evaluate at this stage the young people's participation in the scheme as it has just been open for job applications for a short period of time. The Government will continue its publicity and promotion work to encourage more young people to participate in the scheme and seize the opportunities it provides. It will also closely monitor the implementation of the scheme, including the usage of places under the scheme, and review it in a timely manner.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)097

(Question Serial No. 2825)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: Not Specified
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

What financial assistance has the Bureau provided to the unemployed and freelancers over the past 3 years? Please list separately.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

In light of the challenges brought about by the epidemic to Hong Kong's employment situation and overall economy, the Government has implemented various measures to create job opportunities and stabilise employment, including measures to promote jobs creation, employment and re-employment, and provide support to individuals and families with financial difficulties. The relevant measures include the provision of 2 000 employment places under the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme; uplift of the ceiling of on-the-job training allowance payable to employers under the Labour Department's Employment Programme for the Elderly and Middle-aged, the Youth Employment and Training Programme and the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme together with payment of a retention allowance on a pilot basis to eligible employees engaged under these employment programmes. In addition, the third tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme (Special Scheme) launched by the Employees Retraining Board in January this year providing a doubled quota for 20 000 trainees will be followed by the fourth tranche of the Special Scheme to be launched in July this year, which provides the same quota of 20 000. The above measures may also help the self-employed seeking job opportunities.

In addition, the Government has launched the time-limited "Special Scheme of Assistance to the Unemployed" under Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme to temporarily relax the asset limits for able-bodied persons by 100% for 12 months from June 2020 to May 2021. The Government will also implement another time-limited new arrangement under the special scheme during the six months of April to September 2021. Specifically, the cash value of insurance policies of able-bodied CSSA applicants will not be counted as assets during the grace period of one year. The above arrangements are also applicable to the self-employed.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)098

(Question Serial No. 2827)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses
Programme: Not Specified
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please advise on the expenditure planned to be allocated to help freelancers in the estimated expenditure for 2021-22. What are the specific measures to support these people?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Chung-tai (LegCo internal reference no.: 47)

Reply:

In light of the challenges brought about by the epidemic to Hong Kong's employment situation and overall economy, the Government has implemented various measures to create job opportunities and stabilise employment, including measures to promote jobs creation, employment and re-employment, and provide support to individuals and families with financial difficulties. The relevant measures include the provision of 2 000 employment places under the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme; uplift of the ceiling of on-the-job training allowance payable to employers under the Labour Department's (LD) Employment Programme for the Elderly and Middle-aged, the Youth Employment and Training Programme and the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme together with payment of a retention allowance on a pilot basis to eligible employees engaged under these employment programmes. LD's revised estimated expenditure in 2020-21 and estimated expenditure in 2021-22 for providing various employment services are \$428 million and \$566 million respectively. In addition, the third tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme (Special Scheme) launched by the Employees Retraining Board in January this year providing a doubled quota for 20 000 trainees will be followed by the fourth tranche of the Special Scheme to be launched in July this year, which provides the same quota of 20 000. The expenditure for implementing various tranches of the Special Scheme has been included in the Government's injection of \$2.5 billion into the Employees Retraining Fund in 2020. The above measures may also help the self-employed seeking job opportunities.

In addition, the Government has launched the time-limited "Special Scheme of Assistance to the Unemployed" under Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme to temporarily relax the asset limits for able-bodied persons by 100% for 12 months from June 2020 to May 2021. The Government will also implement another time-limited new

arrangement under the special scheme during the six months of April to September 2021. Specifically, the cash value of insurance policies of able-bodied CSSA applicants will not be counted as assets during the grace period of one year. The above arrangements are also applicable to the self-employed. The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council has approved a one-off commitment of \$3.52 billion for the expenditure of these two arrangements.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)099****(Question Serial No. 2104)**Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare BureauSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (4) Manpower DevelopmentControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and WelfareQuestion:

Regarding the 2 completed tranches of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme (the Scheme), please provide the following information since its implementation:

1. the respective numbers of trainees of various courses with a breakdown by course type and tranche of the Scheme;
2. the employment status of these trainees with a breakdown by tranche of the Scheme (by using the table below); and

	Has changed from employed/self-employed to unemployed	Has been asked by employer to take no-pay leave for no less than 4 days in any one month	Underemployed
Number of trainees			

3. the total amount of subsidies disbursed so far with a breakdown by tranche of the Scheme.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)Reply:

The information required is provided as follows:

1. & 3. As at end February 2021, 16 200 trainees enrolled in 18 200 training courses (note: a trainee may enrol in more than one course) under the first tranche of the Special Scheme. The total amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed courses was \$51.05 million. Under the second tranche of the Special Scheme, 17 100 trainees enrolled in 21 400 training courses. The total amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed courses was \$44.14 million. The numbers of enrolled trainees in various categories of training courses under the first and second tranches of the Special Scheme are set out at the Annex.

2. About 76% of enrolled trainees under the Special Scheme declared their employment status as unemployed, while the rest declared as underemployed.

**Number of Enrolled Trainees in Different Categories of Training Courses
under the First Tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme
(as at end February 2021)**

Course Category	Number of Enrolled Trainees
Vocational Skills (Full-time)	12 074
Vocational Skills (Part-time)	3 346
Generic Skills	2 166
Innovation and Technology	595
Total:	18 181

**Number of Enrolled Trainees in Different Categories of Training Courses
under the Second Tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme
(as at end February 2021)**

Course category	Number of Enrolled Trainees
Vocational Skills (Full-time)	7 400
Vocational Skills (Part-time)	7 849
Generic Skills	4 421
Innovation and Technology	1 701
Total:	21 371

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)100

(Question Serial No. 2105)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (7) Subvention: Vocational Training Council (Vocational Training)
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Maritime Services Training Institute (MSTI) provides students with professional maritime knowledge, practical skills for shipboard operations and training on practices in maritime industries for the purpose of preparing them for development in the seafaring career and marine-related sectors. In this connection, please provide the following information for the past 3 years:

1. What were the annual student enrolments and numbers of graduates of the MSTI?
2. What were the numbers of graduates pursuing a seafaring career and their respective percentages in the total number of graduates?
3. Apart from the MSTI, there are other public organisations offering training to nurture talents in maritime industries. Please provide a list of the training courses provided in the past 3 years and at present as well as the number of students enrolled.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 11)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

1. & 2. The Maritime Services Training Institute (MSTI) has provided various seafaring and maritime-related courses in the past 3 academic years. The annual numbers of students enrolled and graduates of the courses, as well as the numbers of graduates engaged in a seafaring career upon completion of higher diploma/certificate courses and their respective percentages among the numbers of graduates are as follows –

Seafaring and Maritime-related Courses	2017/18 Academic Year	2018/19 Academic Year	2019/20 Academic Year
Higher Diploma/Certificate			
(a) Number of students enrolled	256	225	158
(b) Number of graduates	123	98	74
(c) Number of graduates engaged in a seafaring career	101	71	57
(d) Percentage of c/b	82.1%	72.4%	77.0%
In-service Training Courses			
Number of students enrolled	4 170	4 164	2 055
Number of graduates	4 123	4 078	2 022

3. There are various institutions in Hong Kong providing recognised maritime programmes to nurture professional seafarers for the deck or engineering department of sea-going ships. For deck department, apart from the Higher Diploma in Maritime Studies programme provided by the MSTI, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) also provides the BBA(Hons) in International Shipping and Transport Logistics programme. Regarding the engineering department, there is the Higher Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (Marine Elective) programme provided by the Institute of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi) under the Vocational Training Council. The numbers of students enrolled in these courses are as follows –

Recognised Maritime Programmes - Institution	Number of Students Enrolled			
	2017/18 Academic Year	2018/19 Academic Year	2019/20 Academic Year	2020/21 Academic Year
BBA(Hons) in International Shipping and Transport Logistics - PolyU	94	92	102	104
Higher Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (Marine Elective) - Institute of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi)	87	60	78	43

Furthermore, the University of Hong Kong, PolyU and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology also provide BEng(Hons) in Mechanical Engineering programmes related to the profession of marine engineering. Graduates of these programmes, upon completion of the statutory pre-sea training courses provided by the MSTI, are eligible to be a deck cadet / engineering officer cadet respectively and develop maritime careers on sea-going ships.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)101

(Question Serial No. 2108)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (7) Subvention: Vocational Training Council (Vocational Training)

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Vocational Training Council (VTC) provides courses for in-service personnel to help upgrade their skills and knowledge to meet the changing manpower needs of industries. How did the VTC introduce curricular changes in response to the needs of society in the past 3 years? Please give the details.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

To assess the manpower demand and training needs of different industries, respective Vocational Training Council Training Boards for the 25 designated industry sectors conduct full-scale manpower surveys at various intervals once every 4 years. These are supplemented by manpower updates to provide various stakeholders with useful information for their future manpower planning, as well as the formulation of education and training policies.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)102

(Question Serial No. 2109)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

It is known that the Talent List was drawn up and promulgated in 2018. How did the Talent List help attract quality people from overseas after its introduction? Please specify.

During the year, the Bureau will co-ordinate the efforts among relevant bureaux/departments (B/Ds) and parties in promoting and reviewing the Talent List of Hong Kong. What are the details of the work and the estimated amount of expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

The Government promulgated the first Talent List of Hong Kong in August 2018. Eligible persons covered by the Talent List will be given 30 bonus points under the General Points Test of the Quality Migrant Admission Scheme (QMAS), and may apply to come to Hong Kong through the current quota of 2 000 provided under QMAS.

The Government will review the coverage of the Talent List and the weight of the score awarded to the qualified talents of the relevant professions in the overall scores of the QMAS to better reflect the latest trends in the employment market, without prejudice to the training and employment opportunities of local talents. The relevant work is part of the overall work of the Labour and Welfare Bureau and other relevant bureaux/departments; there is no separate breakdown for the expenditure involved.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)103

(Question Serial No. 2111)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

1. How did the Government support the unemployed in the past year? Please provide a detailed breakdown in table form by the (1) name of the measures; (2) implementation date; (3) number of beneficiaries; (4) related expenditure.
2. How will the Government further support the unemployed in the coming year? Please list out in detail the name of the projects and the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 17)

Reply:

In light of the challenges brought about by the epidemic to Hong Kong's employment situation and overall economy, the Government has implemented various measures to create job opportunities and stabilise employment, including measures to promote jobs creation, employment and re-employment, and provide support to individuals and families with financial difficulties. The relevant measures include the provision of 2 000 employment places under the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme; uplift of the ceiling of on-the-job training allowance payable to employers under the Labour Department's (LD) Employment Programme for the Elderly and Middle-aged, the Youth Employment and Training Programme and the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme together with payment of a retention allowance on a pilot basis to eligible employees engaged under these employment programmes. LD's revised estimated expenditure in 2020-21 and estimated expenditure in 2021-22 for providing various employment services are \$428 million and \$566 million respectively. In addition, the third tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme (Special Scheme) launched by the Employees Retraining Board in January this year providing a doubled quota for 20 000 trainees will be followed by the fourth tranche of the Special Scheme to be launched in July this year, which provides the same quota of 20 000. The expenditure for implementing various tranches of the Special Scheme has been included in the Government's injection of \$2.5 billion into the Employees Retraining Fund in 2020.

In addition, the Government has launched the time-limited "Special Scheme of Assistance to the Unemployed" under Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme to

temporarily relax the asset limits for able-bodied persons by 100% for 12 months from June 2020 to May 2021. The Government will also implement another time-limited new arrangement under the special scheme during the six months of April to September 2021. Specifically, the cash value of insurance policies of able-bodied CSSA applicants will not be counted as assets during the grace period of one year. The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council has approved a one-off commitment of \$3.52 billion for the expenditure of these two arrangements.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)104****(Question Serial No. 1052)**

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Government plans to expand the scope of the Continuing Education Fund (CEF) to cover online courses. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

1. What are the administrative cost and manpower involved in the above plan?
2. Please set out the utilisation rate of the CEF in the past 3 years. What measures were taken in 2020-21 to increase the utilisation rate of the CEF?
3. Will the Government step up its efforts in 2021-22 in encouraging the public to pursue continuing studies in courses related to service sectors (e.g. food and beverage services) to attract more talents to join the industry?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

1. The relevant work is part of the overall work of the Labour and Welfare Bureau; there is no separate breakdown for the expenditure and manpower involved.
2. The numbers of subsidy recipients and the total amount of tuition fee reimbursed under the Continuing Education Fund (CEF) for the past 3 years (i.e. from 2018-19 to 2020-21) are set out in the table below:

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at 31 January 2021)
No. of subsidy recipients	15 746	19 094	23 013
Total amount of tuition fee reimbursed (\$ million)	124.3	158.7	197.7

The Office of the CEF (OCEF) promotes CEF and encourages members of the public to apply for CEF through various channels such as television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest, advertisements in newspapers and on electronic platforms, as well as publicity leaflets and its website, etc. OECF launched online submission services in April 2020 to facilitate members of the public to submit applications.

3. As at end December 2020, learners may choose from around 10 000 courses registered under CEF, including courses related to different service industries, offered by more than 300 course providers according to their interests and needs.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)105

(Question Serial No. 1080)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

What is the number of participants of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme (the Scheme) so far and its percentage in the total unemployed population? Does the Government have any statistics on the number of trainees who have taken up employment again upon completion of the Scheme? Which 10 occupations have the largest numbers of such trainees?

In the face of rising unemployment rate, will the Government plan to provide more targeted courses separately? Will there be any special initiatives to encourage employers to hire trainees of the Scheme? If so, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

The Employees Retraining Board (ERB) launched the first and second tranches of the “Love Upgrading Special Scheme” (the Special Scheme) in October 2019 and July 2020 respectively to support employees affected by economic downturn. As at end February 2021, 16 200 and 17 100 trainees enrolled in courses under the above-mentioned two tranches of the Special Scheme respectively. The third tranche of the Special Scheme commenced in January 2021, so relevant information is not yet available. As the above-mentioned trainees include persons who were unemployed or underemployed during different periods of time on or after 1 June 2019, it cannot be compared against the number of unemployed persons at a specific time.

The training bodies of ERB start the follow-up placement period of three to six months upon completion of classes of full-time “Vocational Skills” courses under the Special Scheme. During the follow-up placement period, the training bodies of ERB will liaise with employers to seek job opportunities for trainees. Employers seeking to recruit graduate trainees to fill job vacancies may contact the placement sections of the training bodies for recruitment services free of charge. The training bodies will also recommend suitable candidates to employers according to their working experience and skills, etc. In addition, ERB organises seminars and workshops and enhances its “Online Recruitment Service”, in order to better

address the manpower and training needs of enterprises and to provide more employment opportunities for trainees.

As at end February 2021, the placement rate of trainees enrolled in the full-time “Vocational Skills” courses under the first tranche of the Special Scheme was about 82%. The top 10 industries were retail, property management and security, domestic services, catering, personal services, manufacturing, education, transportation and logistics, business, and medical and healthcare. The follow-up placement period of respective classes under the second tranche of the Special Scheme was extended to the second half of 2021 due to the COVID-19 situation. The third tranche of the Special Scheme commenced in January 2021, so relevant information is not yet available.

The number of training courses of the Special Scheme have increased from 66 under the first tranche to about 450 under the third tranche, covering “Vocational Skills” courses from 28 trades, as well as courses in “Generic Skills” and “Innovation and Technology”. ERB will launch the fourth tranche of the Special Scheme in July 2021 and continue to provide more training options under and more online courses for trainees to engage in distance learning during the epidemic.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)106

(Question Serial No. 0230)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (7) Subvention: Vocational Training Council (Vocational Training)
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

As regards the implementation of the Apprenticeship Ordinance (the Ordinance), please provide the following information:

- (a) the respective numbers of employers participating in the Apprenticeship Scheme and registered apprentices in each of the past 5 years (with breakdowns by designated trade and non-designated trade);
- (b) the number of registered apprentices in all the designated trades under the Ordinance up to now (with breakdowns by gender, age and trade);
- (c) the number of non-designated trades participating in the Apprenticeship Scheme under the Ordinance up to now and the number of apprentices involved (with breakdowns by gender, age and trade); and
- (d) the number of apprentices who have completed training under the Apprenticeship Scheme in each of the past 5 years, and the number of apprentices who continued to work in their original trades and their percentage share in the total number of apprentices in employment.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

The information requested is provided as follows:

- (a) The respective numbers of employers participating in the Apprenticeship Scheme (the Scheme) and registered apprentices as at the end of the past 5 financial years (by designated trades and non-designated trades) are as follows –

Year	No. of employers	No. of apprentices		
		Designated trades	Non-designated trades	Total
2016-17	618	2 595	2 567	5 162
2017-18	600	2 579	2 482	5 061
2018-19	544	2 608	2 328	4 936
2019-20	560	2 425	2 099	4 524
2020-21 (as at the end of February)	551	2 299	2 209	4 508

- (b) As at the end of February 2021, there were 2 299 registered apprentices in the designated trades. Breakdowns by trade and gender and by age are provided as follows –

By gender

	Designated trades	Male	Female
1	Carpenter/Joiner	20	4
2	Gas Utilisation Fitter	32	-
3	Refrigeration/Air-conditioning Mechanic	407	-
4	Vehicle Painter	24	-
5	Vehicle Electrician	36	-
6	Vehicle Mechanic	259	1
7	Vehicle Body Repairer	81	-
8	Building Services Mechanic	126	1
9	Construction Plant Mechanic	31	-
10	Cable Jointer (Power)	14	-
11	Plumber	43	-
12	Mould and Die Maker and Repairer	4	-
13	Electrician	457	8
14	Lift Electrician	637	7
15	Electrical Appliances Service Mechanic	17	-
16	Electrical Fitter	55	-
17	Bricklayer/Plasterer/Tiler	19	-
18	Painter	15	1
	Sub-total	2 277	22
	Total	2 299	

By age (Note 1)

Age	No. of registered apprentices in designated trades
14 to under 19	917
19 or above	1 382
Total	2 299

Note 1: At present, there are a total of 45 designated trades under the Apprenticeship Ordinance. A young person of or over the age of 14 and under the age of 19 who is employed in a designated trade and who has not completed an apprenticeship must enter into an apprenticeship contract with the employer. The apprentice contract must be registered with the Director of Apprenticeship. Voluntary registration is also open to apprentices aged 19 or above in designated trades.

- (c) As at the end of February 2021, there were 47 non-designated trades with a total of 2 209 registered apprentices (Note 2). Breakdowns by trade and gender and by age are provided in the 2 tables below –

By gender

	Non-designated trades	Male	Female
1	Aircraft Maintenance Mechanic I	13	4
2	Aircraft Maintenance Mechanic II	46	6
3	Aircraft Painting Mechanic	2	1
4	Analytical Testing Technician	1	3
5	Arboriculture Management Specialist	8	4
6	Beauty and Personal Care Specialist	1	-
7	Computer Engineering Technician	16	-
8	Construction Assistant	10	-
9	Construction Materials Testing Technician	2	2
10	Construction Technician	340	29
11	Craft Apprentice (Waterworks)	14	1
12	Craftsman (Air-conditioning)	144	4
13	Craftsman (Electrical)	219	8
14	Craftsman (Electronic)	64	4
15	Craftsman (Mechanical)	125	4
16	Craftsman (Vehicle)	39	2
17	Engineering Assistant (Building Services)	1	-
18	Fire Services Mechanic	25	1
19	Fire Services Technician	3	-
20	Gas Network Fitter	24	-
21	Graphic Designer	-	1
22	Graphic Designer Assistant (Printing)	-	2
23	IT System Administrator	10	-

	Non-designated trades	Male	Female
24	Lift Control Mechanic	2	-
25	Lift Technician	46	2
26	Mechanical Fitter	96	-
27	Media Publication Assistant	9	1
28	Medical Operations Assistant	1	10
29	Metal Worker	12	-
30	Motorcycle Mechanic	1	-
31	Passenger Services Officer	-	4
32	Permanent Way Mechanic	33	-
33	Publishing & Media Design Technician	1	6
34	Quantity Surveying Assistant	3	-
35	Quantity Surveying Technician	44	27
36	Refrigeration/Air-conditioning Technician	10	-
37	Security and Communication Systems Mechanic	17	-
38	Steel Fabricator	8	-
39	Technician (Air-conditioning)	17	-
40	Technician (Building Services)	219	26
41	Technician (Electrical)	197	5
42	Technician (Electronic)	101	8
43	Technician (Mechanical)	64	4
44	Technician (Vehicle)	36	-
45	Terminal Services Operator	3	2
46	Watch Technical Assistant	9	1
47	Welder	1	-
	Sub-total	2 037	172
	Total	2 209	

Note 2: Apprentices in trades not specified as designated trades (non-designated trades) are registered on a voluntary basis.

By age

Age	No. of registered apprentices in non-designated trades
14 to under 19	328
19 or above	1 881
Total	2 209

- (d) The numbers of people who had completed the Scheme as at the end of the past 5 financial years are as follows –

Year	No. of people who had completed the Scheme
2016-17	709
2017-18	931
2018-19	896
2019-20	1 185
2020-21 (as at the end of February)	1 106

Data collected from the VTC's surveys on apprentices who had completed their apprenticeship training in the past 5 financial years, including the numbers of apprentices in employment and those who continued to work in their original trades as well as their percentage share in the total number of apprentices in employment, are given in the table below –

Year of survey	No. of apprentices responding to the annual survey	No. of apprentices in employment	No. of apprentices continuing to work in their original trades
2016-17	174	169	167 (98.8%)
2017-18	200	196	195 (99.5%)
2018-19	198	195	192 (98.5%)
2019-20	200	194	191 (98.5%)
2020-21 (as at the end of February)	533 (Note 3)	513	497 (96.9%)

Note 3: During and before 2019-20, the VTC conducted annual surveys of 200 randomly-selected apprentices who had completed their apprenticeship training in that financial year. Since 2020-21, the VTC has expanded the scope of survey to all apprentices who have completed their apprenticeship training in that financial year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)107

(Question Serial No. 1878)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

It is stated in the Budget that having regard to the advancement in technology and changes in learning mode, the Government plans to expand the scope of the Continuing Education Fund to include online courses to provide learners with more diversified ways of continuing learning. At the same time, the Government will ensure effective supervision over the quality of courses and teaching. Will the Government advise this Committee on the following: when is the estimated time for implementing the proposal; what is the timetable and how much provision is earmarked in 2021-22 for the implementation?

Asked by: Hon LEE Wai-king, Starry (LegCo internal reference no.: 70)

Reply:

To cater for advancement in technology and changes in learning mode, the Government plans to recognise online courses under the Continuing Education Fund, and is formulating a framework to provide learners with more diversified ways of continuing learning whilst ensuring effective supervision over the quality of courses and teaching. The Government will consult the sector with a view to promulgation in September 2021. The relevant work is part of the overall work of the Labour and Welfare Bureau; there is no separate breakdown for the expenditure and manpower involved.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)108

(Question Serial No. 3031)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Employees Retraining Board launched the Love Upgrading Special Scheme (the Scheme) to provide the unemployed or underemployed with training courses for about 3 months for their self-enhancement. Eligible trainees who have completed a course under the Scheme with an attendance rate of 80% will be disbursed with a special allowance. Would the Government please advise this Committee on: the respective number of trainees participating in full-time and part-time courses in each of the past 3 years; the respective amount of special allowance involved; the top 5 courses with the most applications for enrolment; the related number of applications for enrolment and amount of allowance disbursed?

Asked by: Hon LEE Wai-king, Starry (LegCo internal reference no.: 64)

Reply:

The Employees Retraining Board (ERB) launched the first, second and third tranches of the "Love Upgrading Special Scheme" (the Special Scheme) in October 2019, July 2020 and January 2021 respectively to support employees affected by economic downturn. As at end February 2021, 16 200 trainees enrolled in 18 200 training courses (note: a trainee may enrol in more than one course) and completed 16 700 training courses under the first tranche of the Special Scheme, including 10 800 full-time "Vocational Skills" courses and 5 900 part-time courses. The total amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed courses was \$51.05 million. The placement rate of trainees enrolled in the full-time "Vocational Skills" courses under the first tranche of the Special Scheme was about 82%. Under the second tranche of the Special Scheme, 17 100 trainees enrolled in 21 400 training courses and completed 20 500 training courses, including 14 600 full-time "Vocational Skills" courses and 5 800 part-time courses. The total amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed courses was \$44.14 million. The third tranche of the Special Scheme commenced in January 2021, so relevant information is not yet available.

The top 5 courses under the first tranche of the Special Scheme by the number of enrolled trainees were "Foundation Certificate in Quality Assurance System for the Recognition Scheme of Security Training (Part-time)", "Foundation Certificate in Baker and Pastry Cook

Training”, “Foundation Certificate in Care-related Support Worker Training”, “Foundation Certificate in Standard Security & Property Management” and “Foundation Certificate in Florist and Floriculture Assistant Training”. About 8 200 trainees enrolled in the above-mentioned courses; the total amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed these courses was \$22.27 million. The top 5 courses under the second tranche of the Special Scheme were “Foundation Certificate in Quality Assurance System for the Recognition Scheme of Security Training (Part-time)”, “Foundation Certificate in English (Elementary Level)”, “Foundation Certificate in English (Upper Level)”, “Foundation Certificate in Internet Business Start-up (Operation & Marketing) (Part-time)” and “Foundation Certificate in Standard Security & Property Management”. About 8 000 trainees enrolled in the above-mentioned courses; the total amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed these courses was \$10.15 million.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)109

(Question Serial No. 3013)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

1. In the past 3 years, what are the numbers of cases of the Employment Programme for the Elderly and Middle-aged (EPEM) and how many of the job seekers are aged 60 to 64; what are the numbers of participants in the Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP)(broken down by age of participants and job nature), as well as the number of cases of the Work Orientation and Placement Scheme (WOPS)(broken down by type of work)?
2. What are the numbers of trainees who have enrolled in and completed courses up to now under each tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme of the Employees Retraining Board? What are the total amount of allowances disbursed to trainees, the per capita amount and total expenditure?
3. Does the Government have any measures to support the unemployed to start their own business or become self-employed? If yes, what are the details, numbers of cases and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

1. In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 265, 417 and 365 placements eligible for joining EPEM (known as the Employment Programme for the Middle-aged before September 2018) which involved job seekers aged 60 to 64.

The Youth Employment and Training Programme (YETP) operates on the basis of programme year, running from September each year to August of the following year. Trainees may choose to attend pre-employment training courses, workplace attachment training, on-the-job training (OJT), etc. according to their own interests and needs. Breakdowns of the numbers of trainees enrolled in YETP by age and of trainees placed into OJT vacancies by occupational group in the past 3 programme years are tabulated

below –

(i) By age

Age	Number of Trainees Enrolled in YETP		
	2017/18 Programme year	2018/19 Programme year	2019/20 Programme year
15-below 18	672	673	413
18-below 21	1 801	1 765	1 361
21-below 25	2 221	2 134	1 644
Total	4 694	4 572	3 418

(ii) By occupation

Occupational group	Number of Trainees Placed into OJT Vacancies		
	2017/18 Programme year	2018/19 Programme year	2019/20 Programme year
Craft and related workers	1 404	1 293	998
Clerical support workers	299	213	148
Associate professionals	165	115	126
Service workers	178	201	91
Sales workers	171	150	64
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	14	9	2
Elementary occupations	15	16	1
Others	18	7	5
Total	2 264	2 004	1 435

In 2018, 2019 and 2020, there were respectively 796, 942 and 809 placements recorded under WOPS. A breakdown of the number of persons with disabilities placed into employment under WOPS by occupation is tabulated below –

Occupation	No. of Placements		
	2018	2019	2020
Managers and administrators	25	32	31
Professionals and associate professionals	41	53	30
Clerical support workers	225	340	224
Service workers	161	165	158
Shop sales workers	104	90	115
Craft and related workers	5	9	27
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	7	3	10
Elementary occupations	228	250	214
Total	796	942	809

2. The Employees Retraining Board (ERB) launched the first, second and third tranches of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme (the Special Scheme) in October 2019, July 2020 and January 2021 respectively to support employees affected by economic downturn. As at end February 2021, 16 200 trainees enrolled in 18 200 training courses (note: a trainee may enrol in more than one course) and completed 16 700 training courses under the first tranche of the Special Scheme. The total amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed courses was \$51.05 million; or \$3,100 per trainee on average. Under the second tranche of the Special Scheme, 17 100 trainees enrolled in 21 400 training courses and completed 20 500 training courses. The total amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed courses was \$44.14 million; or \$2,200 per trainee on average. The third tranche of the Special Scheme commenced in January 2021, so relevant information is not yet available.
3. ERB currently provides 7 courses related to self-employment or business start-up, including “Foundation Certificate in Entrepreneurship”, “Foundation Certificate in Small Business Start-up I (Fundamental Operation) (Part-time)” and “Foundation Certificate in Small Business Start-up II (Financial Management) (Part-time)”, etc. Last year, about 2 000 trainees enrolled in the above courses. ERB does not maintain a separate breakdown of expenditure for the above courses.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)110

(Question Serial No. 0111)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

As regards the provision of subvention for the Vocational Training Council to offer vocational training, please inform this Committee of the following information about the industry-specific and subject-specific training courses of short duration and programmes which do not lead to formal qualifications:

- (a) the total number and titles of the industry-specific and subject-specific training courses of short duration and programmes which do not lead to formal qualifications;
- (b) the number of enrolling trainees, their age and academic qualifications, with a breakdown by course/programme title.

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

In the 2019/20 academic year, the Vocational Training Council (VTC) offered about 750 non-award bearing short training courses covering industries including engineering, business, hotel and tourism, and information technology. Around 26 000 trainees enrolled. VTC does not maintain separate breakdown of the trainees' age and academic qualifications.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)111

(Question Serial No. 0138)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the approval of the Employees Retraining Board for training bodies to run training courses, would the Government provide this Committee with the figures for the past 5 years pertaining to the number of approved retraining courses and the amount of funding allocated to each training body?

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

The number of training courses approved by the Employees Retraining Board and the amount of funding allocated to each training body for organising training courses from 2016-17 to 2020-21 are at Annex I and Annex II.

	Training Body	Number of Training Courses Approved				
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 [Note 1]
1	Association for Engineering and Medical Volunteer Services	1	1	-	1	1
2	The Industrial Evangelistic Fellowship Limited	26	33	32	52	44
3	Yan Oi Tong Limited	87	92	99	128	136
4	Queen Elizabeth Hospital - Hospital Authority	4	4	2	3	3
5	Advanced Printing Technology Centre Limited	5	5	6	6	6
6	Li Fai Centre of Wushu	2	2	2	2	2
7	Logistics Practitioners Union [Note 2]	-	1	1	2	2
8	YMCA College of Careers	18	30	28	68	82
9	Star Chef Management School operated by Star Chef Management School Company Limited	6	4	4	4	6
10	Royal International College	13	7	11	13	15
11	Farida Hair & Beauty Education Centre	2	-	-	-	-
12	Heung To College of Professional Studies	51	45	46	67	72
13	Hong Kong Manpower Development Centre Limited	17	17	14	19	17
14	Hong Kong Workers' Health Centre Limited	1	2	2	2	2
15	The Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions	170	167	136	196	232
16	The Mental Health Association of Hong Kong	4	3	3	1	4
17	Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association Limited	22	20	27	53	54
18	Hong Kong Association for Democracy and People's Livelihood	58	61	68	107	112
19	Hong Kong Federation of Women Limited	6	5	4	5	4
20	Hong Kong Association of Gerontology	3	3	3	3	4
21	Caritas - Hong Kong	60	51	69	106	128

	Training Body	Number of Training Courses Approved				
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 [Note 1]
22	The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups	-	-	-	3	2
23	School of Continuing and Professional Education, City University of Hong Kong	47	46	36	84	89
24	Hong Kong Institute of Technology	3	-	4	5	20
25	Hong Kong Red Cross	5	5	5	5	5
26	Hong Kong Storehouses, Transportation & Logistics Staff Association	1	-	-	-	-
27	Hong Kong Travel & Tourism Training Centre Limited	15	-	-	-	-
28	Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong	1	-	-	-	-
29	Hongkong School of Commerce	46	26	27	60	44
30	Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association	58	61	59	126	119
31	The Young Men's Christian Association of Hong Kong	41	35	38	50	60
32	Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres	39	42	62	67	97
33	Institute of Active Ageing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	1	1	1	1	1
34	The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong	34	33	36	43	44
35	Hong Kong Rehabilitation Power	7	8	6	2	7
36	The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation	13	14	14	15	16
37	The Free Methodist Church of Hong Kong	-	1	1	-	-
38	Xianggang Putonghua Yanxishe	2	1	1	1	5
39	The Scout Association of Hong Kong - The Friends of Scouting	47	38	36	54	49
40	Hong Kong Federation of Handicapped Youth	7	5	6	8	9
41	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Lady MacLehose Centre	57	52	54	95	101
42	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Limited	10	8	8	13	18
43	Hong Kong St. John Ambulance	2	3	3	3	3

	Training Body	Number of Training Courses Approved				
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 [Note 1]
44	Hong Kong Ballroom Dancing Council Limited	-	1	1	2	2
45	The Hong Kong School of Motoring Limited	1	1	1	1	5
46	Hong Kong Tour Guides General Union	1	5	-	-	-
47	Hong Kong Electrical & Mechanical College (Evening School)	18	16	17	18	18
48	The Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions	196	198	199	317	299
49	Hong Kong Employment Development Service Limited	106	89	75	102	102
50	College of Nursing, Hong Kong	4	3	1	1	2
51	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service	49	57	70	117	127
52	The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hongkong	55	52	48	78	89
53	Christian Action	111	92	90	132	135
54	Haven of Hope Christian Service	2	2	3	3	2
55	Methodist Centre	53	59	66	111	127
56	Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service	8	9	9	9	10
57	Hong Kong and Kowloon Gold Ornaments and Jewellery Trade Workers' Union	5	5	6	7	6
58	The Federation of Hong Kong and Kowloon Labour Unions	81	78	80	108	114
59	Hong Kong and Kowloon Electrical Engineering and Appliances Trade Workers Union	2	2	2	2	2
60	HKCT Group Limited	184	194	165	224	205
61	Vassar International Chinese Medical Society Limited	20	16	21	24	25
62	Neighbourhood & Worker's Service Centre	50	52	69	112	123
63	New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association	5	5	7	5	3
64	New Territories Association Retraining Centre Limited	77	78	76	144	144
65	New Home Association Limited	8	8	4	1	10

	Training Body	Number of Training Courses Approved				
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 [Note 1]
66	Kwan Sang Catering Professional Employees Association	1	1	-	-	-
67	S. K. H. Holy Carpenter Church Community Centre	44	27	32	45	47
68	St. James' Settlement	63	45	52	65	69
69	KCRA Community Education Enhancement Center Limited	83	73	81	118	143
70	Kwai Chung Hospital - Hospital Authority	2	2	2	2	2
71	Youth Centre of The True Word Lutheran Church operated by The True Word Lutheran Church Limited	-	-	-	-	4
72	Princess Margaret Hospital	2	2	2	2	2
73	Monita Hair & Beauty Academy	1	-	-	2	-
74	Clothing Industry Training Authority	8	8	9	10	10
75	The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council	5	5	6	6	6
76	The Association of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (Hong Kong) Limited	17	18	16	14	16
77	Silence Limited	1	-	2	2	-
78	Asia-Pacific Institute of Ageing Studies, Lingnan University	5	-	-	1	-
79	Occupational Safety and Health Council	7	3	2	-	-
80	Vocational Training Council	94	90	91	110	107
81	Hospital & Clinic Nurses Association	2	2	1	1	3
82	OIWA Limited	14	15	11	13	15
83	Leo Hair & Beauty Training Centre	17	-	-	-	-

Note 1: Figures as at February 2021.

Note 2: Logistics Cargo Supervisors Association was renamed as Logistics Practitioners Union in 2018-19.

	Training Body	Funding (\$'000)				
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 [Note 3]
1	Association for Engineering and Medical Volunteer Services	-	-	-	50	52
2	The Industrial Evangelistic Fellowship Limited	2,372	2,284	2,412	1,806	1,123
3	Yan Oi Tong Limited	22,219	25,554	31,558	30,683	20,474
4	Queen Elizabeth Hospital - Hospital Authority	6,708	7,582	7,326	4,917	3,744
5	Advanced Printing Technology Centre Limited	22	91	91	61	79
6	Li Fai Centre of Wushu	158	252	416	566	5
7	Logistics Practitioners Union [Note 4]	-	10	-	-	-
8	YMCA College of Careers	982	1,957	1,694	2,968	5,253
9	Star Chef Management School operated by Star Chef Management School Company Limited	323	370	460	362	444
10	Royal International College	1,448	1,094	1,761	2,124	2,862
11	Farida Hair & Beauty Education Centre	71	-	-	-	-
12	Heung To College of Professional Studies	12,280	13,095	14,258	11,265	10,581
13	Hong Kong Manpower Development Centre Limited	4,289	5,055	6,870	6,972	4,610
14	Hong Kong Workers' Health Centre Limited	404	641	581	362	292
15	The Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions	17,997	15,053	14,272	16,701	56,655
16	The Mental Health Association of Hong Kong	509	264	143	284	41
17	Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association Limited	1,440	1,781	2,029	1,781	853
18	Hong Kong Association for Democracy and People's Livelihood	20,947	23,778	22,674	21,312	16,857
19	Hong Kong Federation of Women Limited	250	158	17	-	-
20	Hong Kong Association of Gerontology	382	203	349	485	273
21	Caritas - Hong Kong	25,789	23,808	24,348	23,455	15,173

	Training Body	Funding (\$'000)				
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 [Note 3]
22	School of Continuing and Professional Education, City University of Hong Kong	2,630	4,421	3,982	2,371	3,437
23	Hong Kong Institute of Technology	1	6	-	-	4
24	Hong Kong Red Cross	5,150	5,086	5,385	3,893	1,203
25	Hong Kong Travel & Tourism Training Centre Limited	247	-	-	-	-
26	Hongkong School of Commerce	1,834	2,840	3,273	3,092	302
27	Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association	24,554	21,979	26,721	23,886	20,200
28	The Young Men's Christian Association of Hong Kong	4,614	3,657	3,676	4,820	3,484
29	Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres	10,896	17,521	24,154	19,934	12,026
30	Institute of Active Ageing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	372	335	435	91	-
31	The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong	7,270	7,116	7,013	5,806	4,660
32	Hong Kong Rehabilitation Power	504	396	302	126	154
33	The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation	4,029	4,076	4,584	3,430	2,780
34	Xianggang Putonghua Yanxishe	102	128	255	126	338
35	The Scout Association of Hong Kong - The Friends of Scouting	3,326	4,100	4,027	5,041	4,053
36	Hong Kong Federation of Handicapped Youth	558	540	541	401	282
37	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Lady MacLehose Centre	12,148	12,771	12,016	10,592	8,313
38	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Limited	1,778	1,873	1,603	1,944	1,297
39	Hong Kong St. John Ambulance	2,534	2,576	2,070	1,863	294
40	Hong Kong Ballroom Dancing Council Limited	-	96	104	147	9
41	The Hong Kong School of Motoring Limited	226	292	399	257	-
42	Hong Kong Electrical & Mechanical College (Evening School)	558	1,303	1,131	2,035	1,470

	Training Body	Funding (\$'000)				
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 [Note 3]
43	The Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions	46,080	51,688	67,100	69,126	58,003
44	Hong Kong Employment Development Service Limited	16,413	14,221	12,517	11,216	7,884
45	College of Nursing, Hong Kong	869	1,147	443	612	379
46	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service	15,267	16,982	18,581	12,469	9,266
47	The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hongkong	24,528	27,533	33,683	32,504	29,338
48	Christian Action	52,219	53,115	61,731	43,055	27,173
49	Haven of Hope Christian Service	89	77	251	290	258
50	Methodist Centre	12,863	13,106	12,750	9,855	8,757
51	Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service	1,409	1,481	1,267	1,207	715
52	Hong Kong and Kowloon Gold Ornaments and Jewellery Trade Workers' Union	399	293	198	143	41
53	The Federation of Hong Kong and Kowloon Labour Unions	36,813	34,337	37,924	41,387	44,043
54	Hong Kong and Kowloon Electrical Engineering and Appliances Trade Workers Union	1,117	604	587	199	1,624
55	HKCT Group Limited	74,352	71,807	73,806	59,384	49,564
56	Vassar International Chinese Medical Society Limited	3,719	3,685	4,039	3,804	1,973
57	Neighbourhood & Worker's Service Centre	11,482	12,209	14,082	12,735	8,636
58	New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association	247	187	431	157	16
59	New Territories Association Retraining Centre Limited	29,710	26,091	24,458	19,497	8,718
60	New Home Association Limited	119	-	-	-	-
61	S. K. H. Holy Carpenter Church Community Centre	6,394	5,109	5,391	3,945	4,094
62	St. James' Settlement	17,156	18,013	22,863	22,828	13,169
63	KCRA Community Education Enhancement Center Limited	12,612	11,146	11,144	8,678	11,421
64	Kwai Chung Hospital - Hospital Authority	2,852	3,024	3,236	2,852	1,530
65	Youth Centre of The True Word Lutheran Church operated by	-	-	-	-	429

	Training Body	Funding (\$'000)				
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 [Note 3]
	The True Word Lutheran Church Limited					
66	Princess Margaret Hospital	2,694	2,795	2,991	1,923	1,959
67	Clothing Industry Training Authority	135	198	295	457	444
68	The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council	413	500	323	29	253
69	The Association of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (Hong Kong) Limited	5,991	7,645	8,310	7,563	4,153
70	Silence Limited	172	-	32	-	-
71	Asia-Pacific Institute of Ageing Studies, Lingnan University	152	-	-	-	-
72	Occupational Safety and Health Council	9	11	-	-	-
73	Vocational Training Council	64,108	62,418	59,981	48,340	27,296
74	Hospital & Clinic Nurses Association	95	150	24	24	-
75	OIWA Limited	159	98	39	86	36
76	Leo Hair & Beauty Training Centre	2,018	-	-	-	-

Note 3: Figures as at February 2021.

Note 4: Logistics Cargo Supervisors Association was renamed as Logistics Practitioners Union in 2018-19.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)112****(Question Serial No. 0139)**

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please inform this Committee of the number of trainees enrolled in courses offered by the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) in the past 5 years by gender, age and educational attainment.

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 20)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

The numbers of trainees enrolled in regular courses offered by the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) in the past 5 years (2016-17 to 2020-21) by gender, age group and educational attainment are as follows –

Gender	Number of Enrolled Trainees				
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at end February 2021)
Male	22 046	22 237	22 652	20 930	24 624
Female	100 664	98 061	104 284	88 052	74 578
Not declared	-	3	-	3	4
Total	122 710	120 301	126 936	108 985	99 206

Age	Number of Enrolled Trainees				
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at end February 2021)
15 - 19	1 957	1 731	1 631	1 292	881
20 - 24	4 580	4 597	4 081	3 251	3 191
25 - 29	5 443	5 199	4 983	3 807	4 286
30 - 39	19 744	19 300	19 437	14 661	13 480
40 - 49	27 888	27 120	27 574	23 246	21 831
50 - 59	39 023	37 236	38 968	33 872	30 719
60 or above	24 075	25 118	30 262	28 856	24 818
Total	122 710	120 301	126 936	108 985	99 206

Educational Attainment	Number of Enrolled Trainees				
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at end February 2021)
Secondary 3 or below	49 838	45 996	46 955	39 587	28 924
Secondary 4 – 7	61 692	62 155	66 740	57 315	51 352
Sub-degree or above ^{Note}	11 180	12 150	13 241	12 083	18 930
Total	122 710	120 301	126 936	108 985	99 206

Note: ERB’s service targets are persons aged 15 or above with educational attainment at sub-degree level or below. Applicants with higher educational attainment but have genuine difficulties in job seeking/switching may apply for discretionary approvals for admission to ERB’s training courses. In addition, ERB launched the “Post-50 Love Upgrading Scheme” in 2019-20, in which eligible persons with higher educational attainment may also take part.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)113

(Question Serial No. 0140)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Employees Retraining Board (ERB) launched the “Love Upgrading Special Scheme” (the Scheme) in October 2019 and three tranches have been launched so far. Please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the age and education level of trainees enrolled in the courses provided by the Scheme, with a breakdown by course title;
- (b) the respective numbers of enrolling trainees and graduate trainees, as well as the employment rate and retention rate of the first two tranches, with a breakdown by course title;
- (c) the total amount of allowances disbursed to trainees and the average monthly allowance received by each trainee.

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

The Employees Retraining Board (ERB) launched the first, second and third tranches of the “Love Upgrading Special Scheme” (the Special Scheme) in October 2019, July 2020 and January 2021 respectively to support employees affected by economic downturn. As at end February 2021, 16 200 trainees enrolled in 18 200 training courses (note: a trainee may enrol in more than one course) and completed 16 700 training courses under the first tranche of the Special Scheme. The total amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed courses was \$51.05 million; or \$3,100 per trainee on average. The placement rate of trainees enrolled in the full-time “Vocational Skills” courses under the first tranche of the Special Scheme was about 82%. Under the second tranche of the Special Scheme, 17 100 trainees enrolled in 21 400 training courses and completed 20 500 training courses. The total amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed courses was \$44.14 million; or \$2,200 per trainee on average. The follow-up placement period of respective classes under the second tranche of the Special Scheme was extended to the second

half of 2021. The third tranche of the Special Scheme commenced in January 2021, so relevant information is not yet available. ERB does not maintain statistics on retention rate.

As at end February 2021, the numbers of trainees enrolled in courses under the first and second tranches of the Special Scheme by age group and educational attainment are as follows:

Age	Number of Enrolled Trainees	
	First Tranche of the Special Scheme	Second Tranche of the Special Scheme
15 - 19	123	113
20 - 24	601	723
25 - 29	847	1 009
30 - 39	2 478	3 051
40 - 49	4 356	4 800
50 - 59	5 980	6 661
60 or above	3 796	5 014
Total:	18 181	21 371

Educational Attainment	Number of Enrolled Trainees	
	First Tranche of the Special Scheme	Second Tranche of the Special Scheme
Secondary 3 or below	5 352	5 684
Secondary 4 - 7	8 781	10 541
Sub-degree or above	4 048	5 146
Total:	18 181	21 371

The numbers of enrolled trainees in various categories of training courses under the first and second tranches of the Special Scheme are set out at the [Annex](#).

**Number of Enrolled Trainees in Different Categories of Training Courses
under the First Tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme
(as at end February 2021)**

Course Category	Number of Enrolled Trainees
Vocational Skills (Full-time)	12 074
Vocational Skills (Part-time)	3 346
Generic Skills	2 166
Innovation and Technology	595
Total:	18 181

**Number of Enrolled Trainees in Different Categories of Training Courses
under the Second Tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme
(as at end February 2021)**

Course category	Number of Enrolled Trainees
Vocational Skills (Full-time)	7 400
Vocational Skills (Part-time)	7 849
Generic Skills	4 421
Innovation and Technology	1 701
Total:	21 371

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)114

(Question Serial No. 0743)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please list in table form the training courses offered by the Employees Retraining Board specifically for ethnic minorities in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by course title, and number of trainees who have attended and completed the course, their nationality, age, gender and education level.

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

Dedicated courses for ethnic minorities offered by the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) in the past 3 years (i.e. 2018-19 to 2020-21) are tabulated below:

1.	Foundation Certificate in Vocational Cantonese I for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)
2.	Foundation Certificate in Vocational Cantonese II (Workplace) for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)
3.	Foundation Certificate in Preparation for Intermediate Trade Test for Plumber (English Medium) (Part-time)
4.	Foundation Certificate in Quality Assurance System for the Recognition Scheme of Security Training (English Medium) (Part-time)
5.	Foundation Certificate in Nail Technician Training (English Medium)
6.	Foundation Certificate in Junior Chef in Western Cuisine Training (English Medium)
7.	Foundation Certificate in Elementary Workplace Chinese I for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)
8.	Foundation Certificate in Elementary Workplace Chinese II for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)
9.	Foundation Certificate in Pastry Making (Cake) (English Medium) (Part-time)
10.	Foundation Certificate in Internet Application (English Medium) (Part-time)

11.	Foundation Certificate in Spreadsheet Processing I (English Medium) (Part-time)
12.	Foundation Certificate in Barista Training (English Medium)
13.	Foundation Certificate in Community Interpreter Training (English and Urdu)
14.	Foundation Certificate in Word Processing I (English Medium) (Part-time)
15.	Foundation Certificate in Computer Operations for Beginners (English Medium) (Part-time)
16.	Foundation Certificate in Community Interpreter Training (English and Hindi)
17.	Foundation Certificate in Junior Beautician Training (English Medium)
18.	Foundation Certificate in Preparation for Intermediate Trade Test for General Welder (English Medium) (Part-time)
19.	Foundation Certificate in Small Business Start-up I (Fundamental Operation) (English Medium) (Part-time)
20.	Foundation Certificate in Cruise Travel Knowledge (English Medium) (Part-time)
21.	Foundation Certificate in Employment Set Sail (English Medium) (Part-time)
22.	Foundation Certificate in Job Search Skills (English Medium) (Part-time)
23.	Foundation Certificate in Vocational Putonghua I for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)
24.	Foundation Certificate in Vocational Putonghua II for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)
25.	Foundation Certificate in Basic English Vocabulary II (Part-time)
26.	Foundation Certificate in Bookkeeping (LCCI Level 1 Bookkeeping Examination) (English Medium)
27.	Foundation Certificate in Preparation for LCCI Level 2 Bookkeeping and Accounting Examination (English Medium) (Part-time)
28.	Foundation Certificate in Kitchen Assistant in Indian Cuisine Training (English Medium)
29.	Foundation Certificate in Community Networking and Programme Planning (English Medium) (Part-time)
30.	Foundation Certificate in Vocational Cantonese II (Social Life) for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)
31.	Foundation Certificate in Vocational Cantonese II (Discussion) for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)
32.	Foundation Certificate in Personal Attributes (English Medium) (Part-time)
33.	Foundation Certificate in Hotel Room Attendant Training (English Medium)
34.	Certificate in Preparation for Trade Tests for Electricians I (Trade Knowledge) (English Medium) (Part-time)
35.	Certificate in Preparation for Trade Tests for Electricians II (Practical) (English Medium) (Part-time)
36.	Foundation Certificate in Standard Security & Property Management (English Medium)
37.	Foundation Certificate in Hair Stylist Assistant Training (English Medium)
38.	Foundation Certificate in Elementary Workplace Chinese III (Writing) for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)

39.	Foundation Certificate in Elementary Workplace Chinese III (Reading) for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)
40.	Foundation Certificate in Preparation for Intermediate Trade Test for Metal Scaffolder (English Medium) (Part-time)
41.	Foundation Certificate in Workplace Chinese (Writing) for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)
42.	Foundation Certificate in Vocational Cantonese (Customer Services) for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)
43.	Foundation Certificate in Community Interpreter Training (English and Nepali)
44.	Foundation Certificate in Junior Body Slimming Beautician Training (English Medium)
45.	Foundation Certificate in Vocational Cantonese (Business Communication) for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)
46.	Foundation Certificate in Workplace Chinese (Reading) for Non-Chinese Speakers (Part-time)

The number of trainees enrolled in dedicated courses for ethnic minorities offered by ERB during the same period by gender, age and educational attainment is provided as follows. ERB does not maintain a breakdown on the nationality of trainees enrolled in the dedicated courses.

Gender	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at end February 2021)
	Number of Enrolled Trainees	Number of Enrolled Trainees	Number of Enrolled Trainees
Male	109	122	162
Female	116	134	211
Total	225	256	373

Age	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at end February 2021)
	Number of Enrolled Trainees	Number of Enrolled Trainees	Number of Enrolled Trainees
15 – 19	36	25	41
20 – 24	38	59	73
25 – 34	62	79	92
35 – 44	54	56	90
45 – 54	33	28	57
55 – 60	1	8	13
Over 60	1	1	7
Total	225	256	373

Educational attainment	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at end February 2021)
	Number of Enrolled Trainees	Number of Enrolled Trainees	Number of Enrolled Trainees
Primary or below	-	6	9
Secondary 1 – 3	21	18	26
Secondary 4 – 7	172	168	201
Sub-degree or above ^{Note}	32	64	137
Total	225	256	373

Note: ERB's service targets are persons aged 15 or above with educational attainment at sub-degree level or below. Applicants with higher educational attainment but have genuine difficulties in job seeking/switching may apply for discretionary approvals for admission to ERB's training courses.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)115

(Question Serial No. 2622)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour and Welfare Bureau oversees the implementation of the “Love Upgrading” Special Scheme. Please provide the monthly number of applicants and participants since the launch of the scheme.

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 91)

Reply:

The Employees Retraining Board (ERB) launched the first and second tranches of the “Love Upgrading Special Scheme” (the Special Scheme) in October 2019 and July 2020 respectively to support employees affected by economic downturn. As at end February 2021, 16 200 and 17 100 trainees enrolled in training courses under the above-mentioned two tranches of the Special Scheme respectively. The third tranche of the Special Scheme commenced in January 2021, so relevant information is not yet available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)116

(Question Serial No. 1037)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

1. Under Programme (4) Manpower Development, the financial provision for 2021-22 is substantially lower than the estimate for 2020-21 by 98.4%. What are the reasons?
2. It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention under this Programme that there will be further expansion of course scope to cover eligible online courses provided by local course providers. What are the specific details of the expansion of course scope?
3. How will the proposal for expansion of course scope be implemented with a substantial reduction in resources?

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

1. & 3. Provision for 2021-22 under Programme (4) is \$2,497.2 million (98.4%) lower than the revised estimate for 2020-21. This is mainly due to the one-off injection of \$2,500 million into the Employees Retraining Fund already completed in 2020-21.
2. To cater for advancement in technology and changes in learning mode, the Government plans to recognise online courses under the Continuing Education Fund (CEF), and is formulating a framework to provide learners with more diversified ways of continuing learning whilst ensuring effective supervision over the quality of courses and teaching. Upon commencement, course providers may design and offer online courses of various areas and apply for registration under CEF to meet market demand.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)117

(Question Serial No. 3212)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

The Labour and Welfare Bureau has been overseeing the implementation of the “Love Upgrading Special Scheme” (the Scheme) since 2019-20. Will the Government advise on the following since the launch of the Scheme:

1. What are the numbers of courses run each month and places for enrolment, as well as the durations of the training courses? Please provide a breakdown by course title.
2. What are the numbers of enrolling trainees and graduate trainees of the courses, as well as the employment rates and retention rates? Please provide a breakdown by course title.
3. What are the average monthly allowance received by each trainee?
4. What is the total expenditure involved in disbursing allowance to the trainees under the Scheme?

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

The Employees Retraining Board (ERB) launched the first, second and third tranches of the “Love Upgrading Special Scheme” (the Special Scheme) in October 2019, July 2020 and January 2021 respectively to support employees affected by economic downturn. The information sought is provided as follows:

1. The numbers of enrolled trainees in various categories of training courses under the first and second tranches of the Special Scheme are set out at the Annex. Duration of respective training courses can be found in ERB’s Course Prospectus: https://www.erb.org/corporate_information/corporate_communications/course_prospectus/en/
2. to 4. As at end February 2021, 16 200 trainees enrolled in 18 200 training courses (note: a trainee may enrol in more than one course) and completed 16 700 training courses

under the first tranche of the Special Scheme. The total amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed courses was \$51.05 million; or \$3,100 per trainee on average. The placement rate of trainees enrolled in the full-time “Vocational Skills” courses under the first tranche of the Special Scheme was about 82%. Under the second tranche of the Special Scheme, 17 100 trainees enrolled in 21 400 training courses and completed 20 500 training courses. The total amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed courses was \$44.14 million; or \$2,200 per trainee on average. The follow-up placement period of respective classes under the second tranche of the Special Scheme was extended to the second half of 2021 due to the COVID-19 situation. The third tranche of the Special Scheme commenced in January 2021, so relevant information is not yet available.

**Number of Enrolled Trainees in Different Categories of Training Courses
under the First Tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme
(as at end February 2021)**

Course Category	Number of Enrolled Trainees
Vocational Skills (Full-time)	12 074
Vocational Skills (Part-time)	3 346
Generic Skills	2 166
Innovation and Technology	595
Total:	18 181

**Number of Enrolled Trainees in Different Categories of Training Courses
under the Second Tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme
(as at end February 2021)**

Course category	Number of Enrolled Trainees
Vocational Skills (Full-time)	7 400
Vocational Skills (Part-time)	7 849
Generic Skills	4 421
Innovation and Technology	1 701
Total:	21 371

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)118

(Question Serial No. 0130)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the programmes and courses offered by the Employees Retraining Board, will the Government inform this committee:

1. whether it has followed up the re-employment situation of the participants to see if the courses taken are conducive to their employment; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
2. whether it has examined whether the courses taken by the participants are related to the jobs engaged; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that;
3. whether it has imposed any restrictions on course selection or number of application; if so, of the details; if not, the reasons for that.

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

1. The training bodies of the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) start the follow-up placement period of three to six months upon completion of classes of placement-tied courses to assist trainees to join the employment market as soon as possible. In the past 3 years (i.e. 2018-19 to 2020-21 as at end February 2021), the placement rate of trainees enrolled in the placement-tied courses under ERB's regular programmes was about 83%.
2. ERB's placement-tied courses aim to equip unemployed trainees with skills required by the market and help them join the employment market as soon as possible. The trainees involved usually opt for cross-industry training.
3. Trainees may participate in ERB's training courses having regard to their interest and needs. Placement-tied courses aim to assist unemployed trainees to join the employment market as soon as possible; each trainee may therefore take up to two placement-tied courses within a year.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)119

(Question Serial No. 0818)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Government will ask the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) to launch the fourth tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme in July, which will last for six months until the end of this year, benefiting 20 000 trainees. The ERB will continue to provide more training options under the scheme and more online courses for trainees to engage in distance learning during the epidemic. In this connection, would the Government advise on:

1. the respective amounts of expenditure of the first to third tranches of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme and the respective numbers of trainees who completed the courses;
2. the details of the initiatives to be introduced under the scheme in 2021-22 and the estimated expenditure breakdowns; and
3. the estimated additional expenditure involved if the relevant retraining allowance is increased from the current maximum of \$5,800 to \$9,000 per month.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

The information required is provided below:

- 1&2. The Employees Retraining Board (ERB) launched the first and second tranches of the "Love Upgrading Special Scheme" (the Special Scheme) in October 2019 and July 2020 respectively to support employees affected by economic downturn. As at end February 2021, 16 200 and 17 100 trainees enrolled under the first and second tranches of the Special Scheme respectively. The third tranche of the Special Scheme commenced in January 2021, so relevant information is not yet available. ERB will launch the fourth tranche of the Special Scheme in July 2021 for six months until the end of this year, enabling an additional 20 000 trainees to receive retraining. ERB

will continue to provide more training options under the Special Scheme and more online courses for trainees to engage in distance learning during the epidemic. The expenditure for implementing the Special Scheme has been included in the Government's injection of \$2.5 billion into the Employees Retraining Fund in 2020.

3. The statutory cap of retraining allowance was increased by 45% from \$4,000 to \$5,800 in May last year. There is currently no plan to further raise the cap.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)120

(Question Serial No. 0545)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

It is announced in this year's Budget that the Government will ask the Employees Retraining Board to launch the fourth tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme in July, which will last for six months until the end of this year, benefiting 20 000 trainees.

Please set out in table form the number of applicants for each course in each tranche, the total number of applicants in each tranche, the total number of places for the courses, the number of applicants for each course and the number of places for each course.

Asked by: Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael (LegCo internal reference no.: 21)

Reply:

The Employees Retraining Board (ERB) launched the first, second and third tranches of the "Love Upgrading Special Scheme" (the Special Scheme) in October 2019, July 2020 and January 2021 respectively to support employees affected by economic downturn. As at end February 2021, 16 200 trainees enrolled in 18 200 training courses under the first tranche of the Special Scheme (note: a trainee may enrol in more than one course). Under the second tranche of the Special Scheme, 17 100 trainees enrolled in 21 400 training courses. The numbers of enrolled trainees in various categories of training courses under the first and second tranches of the Special Scheme are set out at the Annex. The third tranche of the Special Scheme commenced in January 2021, so relevant information is not yet available. ERB does not prescribe quota for individual training courses.

**Number of Enrolled Trainees in Different Categories of Training Courses
under the First Tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme
(as at end February 2021)**

Course Category	Number of Enrolled Trainees
Vocational Skills (Full-time)	12 074
Vocational Skills (Part-time)	3 346
Generic Skills	2 166
Innovation and Technology	595
Total:	18 181

**Number of Enrolled Trainees in Different Categories of Training Courses
under the Second Tranche of the Love Upgrading Special Scheme
(as at end February 2021)**

Course category	Number of Enrolled Trainees
Vocational Skills (Full-time)	7 400
Vocational Skills (Part-time)	7 849
Generic Skills	4 421
Innovation and Technology	1 701
Total:	21 371

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)121

(Question Serial No. 1191)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

It is mentioned under this Programme that under the steer of the Human Resources Planning Commission (HRPC) convened by the Chief Secretary for Administration, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) is tasked to map out strategies for developing human resources to meet the manpower needs of Hong Kong. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following for each of the past 3 years:

1. What was the total number of meetings held by the HRPC?
2. What proposals in relation to human resources strategies did the HRPC raise?
3. Did the LWB take into account the above proposals in formulating strategies for developing future human resources? If yes, please specify.
4. Does the LWB have a regular team of staff to examine Hong Kong's current and future manpower needs as well as the corresponding human resources strategies? If yes, what is the staffing establishment?

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- 1 & 2. Since its establishment in April 2018, the Human Resources Planning Commission (HRPC) has discussed various issues pertaining to human resources, including Hong Kong's labour market and ongoing manpower policies; strategies for nurturing talent and attracting outside talent; overall manpower situation, opportunities and challenges for individual industries; impact of automation on Hong Kong's human resources; key findings of Manpower Projection to 2027; Hong Kong Productivity Council's support measures to help enterprises to adopt automation technology; the "Job Creation" initiative and the Greater Bay Area Youth Employment Scheme launched under the Government's Anti-epidemic Fund; the retraining services provided by the Employees Retraining Board during the pandemic, etc. HRPC has also provided input for the formulation of the

Technology Talent Admission Scheme launched in June 2018 and the drawing up of the Talent List for implementation through the Quality Migrant Admission Scheme.

3. Under the steer of HRPC, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) maps out strategies for developing human resources to meet the manpower needs of Hong Kong and a well-trained and adaptable workforce to meet the changing manpower demands of the economy and contribute to the overall competitiveness of Hong Kong.
4. The relevant work is part of the overall work of LWB; there is no separate breakdown for the manpower involved.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)122

(Question Serial No. 3071)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau
Subhead (No. & title): ()
Programme: (4) Manpower Development
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

In 2019-20, the Government made an injection of \$2.5 billion for the Employees Retraining Board to implement the Love Upgrading Special Scheme (the Scheme) with the fourth tranche to be launched within this year. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of:

- (a) the expenditure involved in each of the previous tranches of the Scheme;
- (b) the expected number of tranches that can be launched under the Scheme with the injection of \$2.5 billion.

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

In 2020, the Government made an injection of \$2.5 billion into the Employees Retraining Fund for the Employees Retraining Board to implement the “Love Upgrading Special Scheme” (the Special Scheme), and to meet the anticipated commitment arising from the increase in the statutory cap of retraining allowance. The injection is expected to cover the expenditure for implementing the first to fourth tranches of the Special Scheme.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)123****(Question Serial No. 0642)**Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare BureauSubhead (No. & title): ()Programme: (7) Subvention: Vocational Training Council (Vocational Training)Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and WelfareQuestion:

As regards the provision of subvention for the Vocational Training Council (VTC) to offer vocational training, would the Government advise this Committee of:

- the respective numbers of places, enrolment rates and completion rates of the training courses on motor vehicle maintenance and ship maintenance offered by the VTC in 2019 and 2020; the enrolment situation of the courses concerned in 2021;
- the respective numbers of places, enrolment rates and completion rates of the courses on electric vehicles offered by the VTC in 2019 and 2020; the enrolment situation of the courses concerned in 2021;
- the estimated manpower and expenditure involved in providing the above courses.

Asked by: Hon YICK Chi-ming, Frankie (LegCo internal reference no.: 49)Reply:

- The respective numbers of places, enrolment rates and graduation rates of full-time programmes in vehicle maintenance and mechanical engineering offered by the Vocational Training Council (VTC) in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 academic years are listed in the table below. As the programmes for the 2021/22 academic year are still open for application, the relevant enrolment numbers are not yet available.

Full-time Programmes		2019/20 academic year	2020/21 academic year
Programmes in vehicle maintenance	No. of places	239	245
	Enrolment rate	118%	115%
	Graduation rate	68%	Academic year has not yet ended

Full-time Programmes		2019/20 academic year	2020/21 academic year
Programmes in mechanical engineering	No. of places	435	331
	Enrolment rate	86%	80%
	Graduation rate	76%	Academic year has not yet ended

The respective numbers of places and enrolment rates of part-time programmes in vehicle maintenance and mechanical engineering offered by VTC in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 academic years are listed in the table below. Since students enrolled in part-time programmes vary in their academic progress and time of completion, the graduation rates of such programmes are not available.

Part-time Programmes		2019/20 academic year	2020/21 academic year
Programmes in vehicle maintenance	No. of places	270	179
	Enrolment rate	73%	101%
Programmes in mechanical engineering	No. of places	240	199
	Enrolment rate	84%	96%

- (b) The number of places and enrolment rate of part-time programmes in electric vehicles offered by VTC in the 2019/20 and 2020/21 academic years are listed in the table below. As the programmes for the 2021/22 academic year are still open for application, the relevant enrolment numbers are not yet available.

Part-time Programmes		2019/20 academic year	2020/21 academic year
Programmes in electric vehicles	No. of places	104	72
	Enrolment rate	41% (Note)	0% (Note)

Note: Admission exercises for the second semester of the 2019/20 academic year and the first semester of the 2020/21 academic year were cancelled due to the epidemic.

- (c) VTC does not maintain a separate breakdown of the estimated expenditures for the above courses.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)124

(Question Serial No. 0989)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the monitoring of the operation of the Continuing Education Fund (CEF) as well as further expansion of course scope to cover eligible online courses provided by local course providers, many courses have been switched to online mode due to the epidemic. In this connection, would the Government advise of:

1. What are the scopes of the online courses currently covered by the CEF? What are the number of participants and the effectiveness of the courses?
2. In the past year, how many courses were under the scope of tourism and what was the number of applicants? What was the proportion of the courses provided by local course providers that were switched to online mode?
3. Will the Government consider relaxing the cap on online course proportion? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
4. Will the Government consider increasing the expenditure and the course scope of the CEF?

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

- (1) & (3) Online courses are currently not recognized under the Continuing Education Fund (CEF). To cater for advancement in technology and changes in learning mode, the Government plans to recognise online courses under CEF, and is formulating a framework to provide learners with more diversified ways of continuing learning whilst ensuring effective supervision over the quality of courses and teaching.
- (2) As at end January 2021, there were 518 CEF courses under the area of tourism. In 2020-21 (as at end January 2021), the Office of the CEF received a total of 1 182 applications for reimbursement claims for courses of the area of tourism.

- (4) The Government injected an additional \$10 billion into the CEF in 2018 and expanded the CEF course scope in 2019 by adding, on top of the original nine course domains, courses of 14 classified areas of study and training registered under the Qualifications Register.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)125

(Question Serial No. 3127)

Head: (141) Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Manpower Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Ms CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

It is stated in the 2020-21 Budget that funding will be allocated to the Employees Retraining Board to enhance the Love Upgrading Special Scheme. The Bureau has launched 3 tranches of the Scheme to help the unemployed or underemployed with skills upgrading, self-enhancement and employment. Please advise of the following:

1. Which sectors out of the training courses are the most popular? What is the enrolment rate? Will the Government allocate more resources for running courses of the most popular sectors to meet trainees' needs?
2. What is the average attendance rate of trainees? What is the average amount of special allowances granted?
3. Are there trainees who enrolled in two or more courses?
4. What is the proportion of online to offline courses?
5. Are there trainees who have successfully re-entered the employment market?
6. Will funding and training places be increased in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon YIU Si-wing (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

The Employees Retraining Board (ERB) launched the first, second and third tranches of the "Love Upgrading Special Scheme" (the Special Scheme) in October 2019, July 2020 and January 2021 respectively to support employees affected by economic downturn. The information sought is provided as follows:

1. The top 5 courses under the first tranche of the Special Scheme by the number of enrolled trainees were "Foundation Certificate in Quality Assurance System for the Recognition Scheme of Security Training (Part-time)", "Foundation Certificate in Baker and Pastry Cook Training", "Foundation Certificate in Care-related Support Worker Training", "Foundation Certificate in Standard Security & Property Management" and

“Foundation Certificate in Florist and Floriculture Assistant Training”. About 8 200 trainees enrolled in the above-mentioned courses. The top 5 courses under the second tranche of the Special Scheme were “Foundation Certificate in Quality Assurance System for the Recognition Scheme of Security Training (Part-time)”, “Foundation Certificate in English (Elementary Level)”, “Foundation Certificate in English (Upper Level)”, “Foundation Certificate in Internet Business Start-up (Operation & Marketing) (Part-time)” and “Foundation Certificate in Standard Security & Property Management”. About 8 000 trainees enrolled in the above-mentioned courses. ERB will keep a close watch on changes in the labour market, consult stakeholders, and develop new courses in response to market needs.

2. As at end February 2021, the amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed courses was \$3,100 per trainee on average under the first tranche of the Special Scheme. Under the second tranche of the Special Scheme, the amount of special allowance disbursed to trainees who had completed courses was \$2,200 per trainee on average. The overall attendance rate of trainees under the Special Scheme was 94%. The third tranche of the Special Scheme commenced in January 2021, so relevant information is not yet available.
3. As at end February 2021, 16 200 trainees enrolled in 18 200 training courses (note: a trainee may enrol in more than one course) under the first tranche of the Special Scheme. Under the second tranche of the Special Scheme, 17 100 trainees enrolled in 21 400 training courses. The third tranche of the Special Scheme commenced in January 2021, so relevant information is not yet available.
4. The Special Scheme currently provides about 450 training courses, over half of which can be conducted by training bodies through online learning mode.
5. As at end February 2021, the placement rate of trainees enrolled in the full-time “Vocational Skills” courses under the first tranche of the Special Scheme was about 82%. The follow-up placement period of respective classes under the second tranche of the Special Scheme was extended to the second half of 2021 due to the COVID-19 situation. The third tranche of the Special Scheme commenced in January 2021, so relevant information is not yet available.
6. ERB will launch the fourth tranche of the Special Scheme in July 2021 for six months until the end of this year, enabling an additional 20 000 trainees to receive retraining.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)126

(Question Serial No. 2986)

Head: (173) Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency

Subhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Item 508 Continuing Education Fund

Programme: (1) Student Assistance Scheme

Controlling Officer: Head, Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency
(Mr Donald NG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

- (1) Please set out the numbers of subsidy recipients under the Continuing Education Fund (CEF) in the past 3 years, with a yearly breakdown by the qualification to be attained upon completion of the reimbursable courses;
- (2) What are the respective numbers of subsidy recipients and cases since the establishment of the CEF, with a breakdown by age group (e.g. 18-30, 31-50 and 51-65) and year?
- (3) What are the reasons for the substantial increase in the estimated numbers of applications and reimbursement claims for the CEF?
- (4) What are the measures for ensuring the quality of courses in response to the substantial increase in the number of applications, so as to help enhance the qualifications of the public? What should be done to prevent educational institutions from increasing the course fees significantly?
- (5) What are the detailed expenditure and balance of the CEF since its establishment? What is the related administrative cost in the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

The information required is provided as follows:

- (1) and (2) The numbers of subsidy recipients under the CEF in the past 3 years (i.e. 2018-19 to 2020-21), with a breakdown by age group and academic qualification awarded per year, are set out at the **Annex**.
- (3) A series of enhancement measures were implemented for the CEF on 1 April 2019, including doubling the subsidy ceiling to \$20,000 per person, lifting the restriction of four-year validity period for CEF accounts and reactivating frozen

CEF accounts so that learners may fully utilise the additional subsidy ceiling, raising the age limit to 70, expanding the scope of CEF courses and implementing measures to enhance course quality and protect applicants. With these measures, the number of subsidy recipients has been growing in the past three years and the growth is expected to continue in 2021-22.

- (4) From 2008 onwards, all new courses applying for registration under the CEF are required to be recognised under the Qualifications Framework (QF) and registered in the Qualifications Register (QR). Under the QF, all courses must fulfil the professional accreditation in respect of content, qualifications of instructors, teaching methodology, assessment methods and quality assurance policies and procedures, etc. by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) or self-accrediting operators to ensure their quality. Following the implementation of the enhancement measures on 1 April 2019, CEF courses registered before 2008 have to be accredited for registration under the QR within a transitional period of 4 years (i.e. by 31 March 2023). A validity period of registration of up to 4 years will be imposed for every CEF course and a more robust documentation checking system will also be put in place over course providers' renewal applications. Moreover, all CEF course providers must comply with the specific requirements on the sales and promotion of courses, enrolment procedure and operation mode laid down by the CEF. The Office of the CEF and the HKCAAVQ will conduct surprise compliance visits on CEF courses. If any course provider is found to have violated the CEF terms or a report of non-compliance is received, immediate follow-up actions will be taken according to the seriousness of the case.

The Government doubled the subsidy ceiling to \$20,000 per person in 2019. To prevent course providers from immediately increasing the course fees to keep close to the CEF subsidy ceiling, the co-payment ratio by learners for the second \$10,000 subsidy was raised from 20% to 40% when the new subsidy ceiling of \$20,000 was introduced.

- (5) Since the establishment of the CEF in 2002, the total funding provision is \$16.2 billion. As at end January 2021, the total expenditure of the CEF was about \$4.9 billion, and the uncommitted balance was about \$11.3 billion. The annual administrative expenditure of the Office of the CEF in the past 3 years (i.e. 2018-19 to 2020-21) was \$18.20 million, \$32.41 million and \$25.64 million respectively.

**Number of subsidy recipients under the CEF
by age group and academic qualification awarded**

2018-19

	Age group				Total
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-65	
Academic qualification awarded	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients
Doctorate	–	–	–	–	–
Master Degree	44	23	13	5	85
Postgraduate Diploma	5	2	1	1	9
Bachelor Degree	27	18	2	–	47
Postgraduate Certificate/ Postgraduate Award	1	1	1	–	3
Associate Degree	–	–	–	–	–
Advanced Diploma/ Professional Diploma/ Post-diploma Certificate	138	98	56	19	311
Higher Diploma	–	–	–	–	–
Diploma/Executive Diploma/ Graduate Diploma	786	228	129	84	1 227
Associate Diploma	2	2	–	–	4
Advanced/ Professional/Higher Certificate	213	120	75	154	562
Certificate/Executive Certificate/ Graduate Certificate	3 014	1 541	1 047	896	6 498
Others (e.g. certificate of completion/ attendance)	6 731	2 321	876	658	10 586
Total	10 961	4 354	2 200	1 817	19 332

	Age group				Total
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-70	
Academic qualification awarded	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients
Doctorate	–	–	–	–	–
Master Degree	54	25	7	4	90
Postgraduate Diploma	5	8	1	–	14
Bachelor Degree	20	24	–	–	44
Postgraduate Certificate/ Postgraduate Award	1	4	–	–	5
Associate Degree	1	–	–	–	1
Advanced Diploma/ Professional Diploma/ Post-diploma Certificate	143	146	64	34	387
Higher Diploma	–	–	–	–	–
Diploma/Executive Diploma/ Graduate Diploma	858	299	230	138	1 525
Associate Diploma	–	1	1	–	2
Advanced/ Professional/Higher Certificate	279	180	153	245	857
Certificate/Executive Certificate/ Graduate Certificate	3 100	2 149	1 310	1 256	7 815
Others (e.g. certificate of completion/ attendance)	6 865	3 266	1 319	800	12 250
Total	11 326	6 102	3 085	2 477	22 990

2020-21 (as at 31 January 2021)

	Age group				Total
	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-70	
Academic qualification awarded	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients
Doctorate	–	–	–	–	–
Master Degree	34	10	7	2	53
Postgraduate Diploma	1	–	1	1	3
Bachelor Degree	9	9	2	0	20
Postgraduate Certificate/ Postgraduate Award	2	3	–	1	6
Associate Degree	–	–	–	–	–
Advanced Diploma/ Professional Diploma/ Post-diploma Certificate	96	107	82	56	341
Higher Diploma	–	–	–	–	–
Diploma/Executive Diploma/ Graduate Diploma	684	257	186	149	1 276
Associate Diploma	–	–	–	–	–
Advanced/ Professional/Higher Certificate	245	255	154	166	820
Certificate/Executive Certificate/ Graduate Certificate	2 672	2 317	1 856	2 240	9 085
Others (e.g. certificate of completion/ attendance)	8 913	5 400	2 162	1 091	17 566
Total	12 656	8 358	4 450	3 706	29 170

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**LWB(L)127****(Question Serial No. 2623)**Head: (173) Working Family and Student Financial Assistance AgencySubhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent
Item 508 Continuing Education FundProgramme: (1) Student Assistance SchemeControlling Officer: Head, Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency
(Mr Donald NG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and WelfareQuestion:

Regarding the "tuition fee reimbursement under the Continuing Education Fund for eligible persons pursuing continuing education and training" under this Programme, what are the number of beneficiaries and total amount of tuition fee reimbursed in each of the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 92)Reply:

The numbers of subsidy recipients and the total amount of tuition fee reimbursed under the Continuing Education Fund for the past 3 years (i.e. from 2018-19 to 2020-21) are set out in the table below:

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at 31 January 2021)
No. of subsidy recipients	15 746	19 094	23 013
Total amount of tuition fee reimbursed (\$ million)	124.3	158.7	197.7

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)128

(Question Serial No. 1987)

Head: (173) Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency

Subhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Item 508 Continuing Education Fund

Programme: (1) Student Assistance Scheme

Controlling Officer: Head, Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency
(Mr Donald NG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Regarding the implementation of the Continuing Education Fund (CEF),

- a. please list out the numbers of CEF users as well as the total and average amounts of fund used in the past 5 years (2016/17 to 2020/21);
- b. please set out the total number of online courses subsidised by the CEF and their proportion against the total number of courses;
- c. please list out the number of online courses in the table below; and
- d. will the Bureau alter the procedures of reimbursement for tuition fees or introduce more courses to promote lifelong learning for all and increase the utilisation rate of the CEF? If yes, what are the details? If there is no such plan, what are the reasons?

Sector Covered		Number of Online Courses
Logistics		
Financial Services		
Business Services		
Tourism		
Languages	English	
	Written Chinese	
	Putonghua	
	French	
	German	
	Japanese	
	Korean	
	Spanish	
	Italian	

	Sign Language	
Design		
Creative Industries		
Interpersonal and Intrapersonal Skills for the Workplace		
Specification of Competency Standards		
A01 - Architecture and Town Planning		
A02 - Arts, Design and Performing Arts		
A03 - Business and Management		
A04 - Computer Science and Information Technology		
A05 - Education		
A06 - Engineering and Technology		
A07 - Humanities		
A08 - Languages and Related Studies		
A09 - LAW		
A10 - Mass Media and Communications, Journalism and Public Relations		
A11 - Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences		
A12 - Sciences		
A13 - Services		
A14 - Social Sciences		

Asked by: Hon QUAT Elizabeth (LegCo internal reference no.: 97)

Reply:

The information required is provided as follows:

- (a) The number of approved applications, the total amount of tuition fees reimbursed and the average amount of subsidy for each approved application under the Continuing Education Fund (CEF) in each of the past 5 years (i.e. 2016-17 to 2020-21) are set out in the table below:

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (as at 31 January 2021)
Number of approved applications	19 505	17 024	16 330	19 634	23 624
Total amount of tuition fees reimbursed (\$ million)	152.9	136.6	124.3	158.7	197.7
Average amount of subsidy for each approved application (\$)	7,838	8,027	7,609	8,084	8,370

- (b), (c) and (d)

At present, the scope of the CEF does not include online courses. Having regard to the advancement in technology and changes in learning mode, the Government plans to expand the scope of the CEF to include online courses. The Government is working on the implementation of the proposal to ensure that in providing learners with more diversified ways of continuing learning, there will be effective supervision over the quality of courses and teaching at the same time.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

LWB(L)129

(Question Serial No. 1176)

Head: (173) Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency

Subhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent
Item 508 Continuing Education Fund

Programme: (1) Student Assistance Scheme

Controlling Officer: Head, Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency
(Mr Donald NG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Please inform this Committee of the course titles, names of course providers, Qualifications Framework Levels, tuition fees and numbers of participants of the top 20 Continuing Education Fund courses with the highest number of applications in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon WONG Kwok-kin (LegCo internal reference no.: 35)

Reply:

Details of the top 20 Continuing Education Fund (CEF) courses by the number of subsidy recipients, including course title, name of course provider, Qualifications Framework (QF) Level and tuition fee, for the past 3 years (i.e. 2018-19 to 2020-21) are set out at Annex.

Top 20 CEF Courses by the Number of Subsidy Recipients

2018-19

	Course title ^{Note 1}	Name of course provider ^{Note 1}	QF level ^{Note 2}	Number of subsidy recipients	Tuition fee ^{Note 3} (\$)
1	Certificate in Electrical Wireman	The Association of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (Hong Kong) Limited	2	647	7,500
2	CPA Qualification Programme	Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants	Not applicable (N.A.)	524	17,600
3	The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Preparation Course	Modern Education (Hong Kong) Limited	N.A.	288	13,600
4	Japanese Language Proficiency Test (N5) Course (Module 1-6)	Nikkei Japanese Language School	N.A.	281	9,400
5	English Improvement Course	Wall Street English	N.A.	270	25,950
6	Diploma in Graphic Design with Adobe Illustrator & Adobe Photoshop	Welkin Computer Training	N.A.	238	6,900
7	Diploma in Business Finance	Advanced Contemporary Education Centre	N.A.	218	19,800
8	Project Management Professional (PMP(R)) Preparation Course	Informatics Education (HK) Limited	N.A.	213	13,800
9	Elementary and Intermediate Japanese Course	Dai-ichi Japanese Language and Culture School	N.A.	205	5,880
10	Certificate in Elementary English	EF Language Solutions Hong Kong Limited	N.A.	191	16,800
11	Introductory Korean (Part 1) & Introductory Korean (Part 2)	School of Professional and Continuing Education, HKU	N.A.	167	7,000

	Course title ^{Note 1}	Name of course provider ^{Note 1}	QF level ^{Note 2}	Number of subsidy recipients	Tuition fee ^{Note 3} (\$)
12	Certificate in BIM Design with Autodesk Revit	Welkin Computer Training	N.A.	159	7,800
13	Higher Japanese Course	Dai-ichi Japanese Language and Culture School	N.A.	157	6,000
14	Diploma in Business Communication	Sino College	N.A.	154	12,500
15	Diploma in Practical Japanese	Sino College	N.A.	153	8,900
16	Certificate in Intermediate English	EF Language Solutions Hong Kong Limited	N.A.	145	16,800
17	PSC Putonghua Proficiency Test Course	Hong Kong Professional Putonghua School	N.A.	139	4,300
18	AutoCAD 2D & 3D Professional Drafting and Design	Computer Power Education Center	N.A.	134	4,320
19	Certificate in Makeup and Hairstyling Skills (QF Level 2)	GLOW Makeup Academy	2	134	16,800
20	Foundation Korean 1 & Foundation Korean 2	School of Professional and Continuing Education, HKU	N.A.	133	7,200

2019-20

	Course title ^{Note 1}	Name of course provider ^{Note 1}	QF level ^{Note 2}	Number of subsidy recipients	Tuition fee ^{Note 3} (\$)
1	CPA Qualification Programme	Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants	N.A.	598	17,600
2	Certificate in Electrical Wireman	The Association of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (Hong Kong) Limited	2	559	12,500
3	Project Management Professional (PMP(R)) Preparation Course	Informatics Education (HK) Limited	N.A.	375	13,800

	Course title ^{Note 1}	Name of course provider ^{Note 1}	QF level ^{Note 2}	Number of subsidy recipients	Tuition fee ^{Note 3} (\$)
4	English Improvement Course	Wall Street English	N.A.	374	25,950
5	Japanese Language Proficiency Test (N5) Course (Module 1-6)	Nikkei Japanese Language School	N.A.	338	9,400
6	Certificate in Elementary English	EF Language Solutions Hong Kong Limited	N.A.	307	16,800
7	Elementary and Intermediate Japanese Course	Dai-ichi Japanese Language and Culture School	N.A.	278	6,120
8	Professional Course in Practical Technical Analysis	FQ Coaching Limited	N.A.	259	25,800
9	Certificate in Beginner English	EF Language Solutions Hong Kong Limited	N.A.	256	16,800
10	Diploma in Graphic Design with Adobe Illustrator & Adobe Photoshop	Welkin Computer Training	N.A.	242	6,900
11	Certificate in Intermediate English	EF Language Solutions Hong Kong Limited	N.A.	223	16,800
12	Diploma in Business Finance	Advanced Contemporary Education Centre	N.A.	221	19,800
13	Diploma in Business Communication	Sino College	N.A.	210	12,500
14	The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Preparation Course	Modern Education (Hong Kong) Limited	N.A.	207	13,600
15	Certificate in Digital Video Production	Feva Works IT Education Centre	N.A.	198	8,500
16	Diploma in Practical Japanese	Sino College	N.A.	183	8,900
17	Certificate in Marine Tourism	Hong Kong Ecotourism & Travels Professional Training Centre	N.A.	180	8,000
18	Higher Japanese Course	Dai-ichi Japanese Language and Culture School	N.A.	173	6,240

	Course title ^{Note 1}	Name of course provider ^{Note 1}	QF level ^{Note 2}	Number of subsidy recipients	Tuition fee ^{Note 3} (\$)
19	Photoshop and Illustrator Digital Graphic Design	Computer Power Education Center	N.A.	149	3,330
20	Introductory Korean (Part 1) & Introductory Korean (Part 2)	School of Professional and Continuing Education, HKU	N.A.	145	7,400

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	Course title ^{Note 1}	Name of course provider ^{Note 1}	QF level ^{Note 2}	Number of subsidy recipients	Tuition fee ^{Note 3} (\$)
1	Certificate in Security Guard Training	FTU Employment Development Service Ltd	1	1 761	550
2	Professional Course in Practical Technical Analysis	FQ Coaching Limited	N.A.	429	25,800
3	Project Management Professional (PMP(R)) Preparation Course	Informatics Education (HK) Limited	N.A.	404	13,800
4	Certificate in Beginner English	EF Language Solutions Hong Kong Limited	N.A.	391	16,800
5	English Improvement Course	Wall Street English	N.A.	384	29,178
6	Certificate in Elementary English	EF Language Solutions Hong Kong Limited	N.A.	383	16,800
7	Certificate in Intermediate English	EF Language Solutions Hong Kong Limited	N.A.	326	16,800
8	Certificate in Advanced English Language Examination Skills	Wall Street English	3	304	22,896
9	Certificate in Electrical Wireman	The Association of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (Hong Kong) Limited	2	296	12,500

	Course title ^{Note 1}	Name of course provider ^{Note 1}	QF level ^{Note 2}	Number of subsidy recipients	Tuition fee ^{Note 3} (\$)
10	CPA Qualification Programme	Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants	N.A.	277	17,600
11	Certificate in Wealth Planning	Modern Continuing Education Centre	3	220	29,200
12	Diploma in Graphic Design with Adobe Illustrator & Adobe Photoshop	Welkin Computer Training	N.A.	212	6,900
13	Elementary and Intermediate Japanese Course	Dai-ichi Japanese Language and Culture School	N.A.	187	6,360
14	Japanese Language Proficiency Test (N5) Course (Module 1-6)	Nikkei Japanese Language School	N.A.	180	9,400
15	Certificate in Upper-Intermediate English	EF Language Solutions Hong Kong Limited	N.A.	173	16,800
16	Certificate in Nail Technology (QF Level 3)	CMM Monita Academy Limited	3	165	14,800
17	Certificate Course on Employment Ordinance	The Hong Kong Management Association	N.A.	163	3,600
18	Diploma in Business Finance	Advanced Contemporary Education Centre	N.A.	152	19,800
19	Certificate in Chinese Medicine Dispensing	School of Professional and Continuing Education, HKU	2	139	14,800
20	Certificate in Digital Video Production	Feva Works IT Education Centre	N.A.	137	8,500

Note 1 Some courses when seeking registration under CEF by course providers were only provided with an English title.

Note 2 All new courses seeking registration under CEF since 2008 are required to be recognised under the QF and registered in the Qualifications Register (QR). Since the implementation of enhancement measures on 1 April 2019, all CEF courses that were registered by non-self-accrediting institutions before the launch of the QF in 2008 have to go through accreditation for registration under the QR before they can continue to be registered as CEF courses within a transitional period of four years (i.e. by 31 March 2023).

Note 3 The registered tuition fee as at the end of that financial year.

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