

Index Page

Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2014-15

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Session No. : 5

File Name : CMAB-2-e1.doc

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
CMAB001	1248	CHAN Chi-chuen	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB002	1249	CHAN Chi-chuen	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB003	1250	CHAN Chi-chuen	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB004	1251	CHAN Chi-chuen	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB005	1261	CHAN Chi-chuen	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB006	2905	CHAN Chi-chuen	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB007	0099	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
CMAB008	3296	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB009	0259	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB010	2837	CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB011	2838	CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB012	0849	CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB013	2304	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB014	0768	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices (4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB015	2598	HO Chun-yan, Albert	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB016	1636	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB017	1643	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices (4) Rights of the Individual (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
				Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB018	2740	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices (4) Rights of the Individual (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB019	2872	IP Kwok-him	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB020	2873	IP Kwok-him	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB021	2892	IP Kwok-him	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB022	2893	IP Kwok-him	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB023	2419	IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB024	2211	KWOK, Dennis	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB025	2117	KWOK Ka-ki	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
CMAB026	1913	LAM Tai-fai	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB027	1914	LAM Tai-fai	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB028	1915	LAM Tai-fai	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB029	1916	LAM Tai-fai	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB030	1842	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB031	1843	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB032	1844	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB033	1845	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB034	1846	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB035	1847	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB036	1848	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB037	1849	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
				Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB038	0481	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB039	0911	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB040	0362	LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB041	0146	LEUNG Kwok-hung	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
CMAB042	2451	LEUNG Kwok-hung	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
CMAB043	2375	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB044	0574	LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB045	0575	LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB046	0576	LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB047	3077	MA Fung-kwok	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB048	3096	MA Fung-kwok	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB049	3171	MA Fung-kwok	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB050	3173	MA Fung-kwok	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB051	0295	NG Leung-sing	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB052	0297	NG Leung-sing	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB053	1982	TAM Yiu-chung	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB054	1983	TAM Yiu-chung	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB055	1984	TAM Yiu-chung	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB056	1985	TAM Yiu-chung	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB057	1986	TAM Yiu-chung	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB058	1987	TAM Yiu-chung	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB059	1988	TAM Yiu-chung	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
				Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB060	0551	TIEN Pei-chun, James	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB061	0552	TIEN Pei-chun, James	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB062	0553	TIEN Pei-chun, James	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB063	0554	TIEN Pei-chun, James	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB064	0060	WONG Kwok-kin	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB065	0061	WONG Kwok-kin	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB066	0065	WONG Kwok-kin	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB067	0635	WONG Kwok-kin	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB068	2518	WONG Kwok-kin	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB069	0993	WONG Ting-kwong	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB070	0994	WONG Ting-kwong	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB071	1113	WONG Ting-kwong	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB072	0149	WONG Yuk-man	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
CMAB073	2723	WONG Yuk-man	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB074	2724	WONG Yuk-man	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB075	2725	WONG Yuk-man	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB076	2918	WONG Yuk-man	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB077	1267	CHAN Chi-chuen	163	Electoral Services
CMAB078	2839	CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher	163	Electoral Services
CMAB079	2765	IP Kwok-him	163	Electoral Services
CMAB080	2766	IP Kwok-him	163	Electoral Services
CMAB081	2767	IP Kwok-him	163	Electoral Services
CMAB082	0137	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	163	Electoral Services
CMAB083	2034	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	163	Electoral Services
CMAB084	0296	NG Leung-sing	163	Electoral Services
CMAB085	0341	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	163	Electoral Services
CMAB086	1989	TAM Yiu-chung	163	Electoral Services
CMAB087	2716	TSE Wai-chuen, Tony	163	Electoral Services
CMAB088	0058	WONG Kwok-kin	163	Electoral Services
CMAB089	0059	WONG Kwok-kin	163	Electoral Services
CMAB090	3724	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
CMAB091	3725	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices (4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB092	3726	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB093	3727	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB094	3728	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB095	3729	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB096	3730	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB097	3731	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
CMAB098	3732	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB099	3733	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB100	3734	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB101	6258	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB102	6320	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
CMAB103	5335	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB104	5336	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB105	5357	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	144	-
CMAB106	4226	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB107	4807	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB108	5900	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB109	5902	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB110	5903	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB111	5904	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB112	5905	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(4) Rights of the Individual

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
		Fernando		
CMAB113	5914	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB114	5915	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB115	5950	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB116	5951	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB117	5952	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB118	5953	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB119	6402	CHEUNG Kwok-che	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
CMAB120	6425	CHEUNG Kwok-che	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB121	6426	CHEUNG Kwok-che	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB122	6427	CHEUNG Kwok-che	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB123	5654	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
CMAB124	5655	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB125	4620	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices (4) Rights of the Individual (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB126	4631	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices (4) Rights of the Individual (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB127	5451	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB128	4804	IP Kin-yuen	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB129	5389	IP Kwok-him	144	(5) Subvention: Equal

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
				Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB130	5390	IP Kwok-him	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB131	5431	LAM Tai-fai	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB132	4349	LEUNG, Kenneth	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB133	6518	LEUNG Kwok-hung	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB134	6519	LEUNG Kwok-hung	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB135	4283	MAK Mei-kuen, Alice	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB136	4284	MAK Mei-kuen, Alice	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB137	4285	MAK Mei-kuen, Alice	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB138	4286	MAK Mei-kuen, Alice	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB139	4292	MAK Mei-kuen, Alice	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB140	4395	MOK, Charles Peter	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
CMAB141	6184	MOK, Charles Peter	144	-
CMAB142	6205	MOK, Charles Peter	144	-
CMAB143	6215	MOK, Charles Peter	144	-
CMAB144	6235	MOK, Charles Peter	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB145	6236	MOK, Charles Peter	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB146	6549	MOK, Charles Peter	144	-
CMAB147	6562	MOK, Charles Peter	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB148	6699	MOK, Charles Peter	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB149	5497	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB150	3321	TANG Ka-piu	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB151	5762	TANG Ka-piu	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB152	5882	TANG Ka-piu	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB153	6155	TIEN Pei-chun, James	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB154	6156	TIEN Pei-chun, James	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
CMAB155	6158	TIEN Pei-chun, James	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB156	6159	TIEN Pei-chun, James	144	(4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB157	3303	TSE Wai-chuen, Tony	144	(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
CMAB158	3305	TSE Wai-chuen, Tony	144	(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
CMAB159	4758	WONG Kwok-hing	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB160	4762	WONG Kwok-hing	144	(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
CMAB161	5251	WONG Yuk-man	144	(1) Director of Bureau's Office (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices (4) Rights of the Individual
CMAB162	4357	CHAN Chi-chuen	163	Electoral Services
CMAB163	6292	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	163	Electoral Services
CMAB164	6293	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	163	Electoral Services
CMAB165	6294	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	163	Electoral Services
CMAB166	6295	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	163	Electoral Services
CMAB167	6296	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	163	Electoral Services
CMAB168	6297	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	163	Electoral Services
CMAB169	5392	IP Kwok-him	163	Electoral Services
CMAB170	6534	MOK, Charles Peter	163	Electoral Services
CMAB171	4763	WONG Kwok-hing	163	Electoral Services
CMAB172	5291	WONG Yuk-man	163	Electoral Services

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB001

(Question Serial No. 1248)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 7):

It is stated in this programme that the Administration will step up promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations through various education and publicity measures and promote the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation (Code of Practice). In this connection, will the Administration:

- (1) set out in table form the education and publicity programmes conducted in the past year (2013), including the nature, objective of, and promotion platform for the programmes, as well as the manpower, resources and expenditure involved?
- (2) set out in table form the education and publicity programmes to be conducted in the coming year (2014), including the nature, objective of, and promotion platform for the programmes, as well as the manpower, resources and expenditure involved?
- (3) advise on the number of public and private sector organisations that have adopted the Code of Practice as a result of the Administration's promotion effort; the estimated manpower, resources and expenditure for promoting the Code of Practice, as well as the number of public and private sector organisations targeted at in the coming year. In case of contravention of the Code of Practice, what follow-up actions will be taken?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

- (1) The Government's education and publicity measures for promoting equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations in 2013-14 are tabulated below:

Programme	Promotion platform	Revised estimated expenditure (HK\$)
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme	Community projects organised by non-government organisations	0.83 million
Various publicity measures such as Announcement in the Public Interest (API) and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities (including promotion of the Code of Practice)	Television, radio, train stations and other public transport network, Internet, seminars, briefings, etc.	2.15 million (including the staff cost of the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit (GISOU))
Total		2.98 million

The above work is undertaken by the GISOU and other subject officers in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB).

(2) The Government's education and publicity measures for promoting equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations in 2014-15 are tabulated below:

Programme	Promotion platform	Estimated expenditure (HK\$)
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme	Activities organised by non-government organisations	1.25 million
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities (including promotion of the Code of Practice)	Television, radio, train stations and other public transport network, Internet, seminars, briefings, etc.	2.25 million (including the staff cost of the GISOU)
Total		3.5 million

The above work will be undertaken by the GISOU and other subject officers in the CMAB.

(3) Over the past few years, the Government has promoted the Code of Practice to public and private sector organisations through various channels, including advertisements, seminars and briefings, and has written to employers in local major public and private sector organisations, appealing for their adoption of the Code of Practice. In 2014, we will continue with our promotion and appeal efforts to encourage more public and private sector organisations to adopt the Code of Practice through different means. The relevant work will be undertaken by

existing manpower and the estimated expenditure is set out in part (2) of this reply. In case of contravention of the Code of Practice, the Government will take follow-up action in the light of the circumstances of individual cases.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1249)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 8):

The Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit (GISOU) was established in May 2005 to manage and monitor the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, and maintain a hotline for enquiries and complaints on issues relating to sexual orientation and gender identity. In this connection, will the Administration:

- (1) advise on the existing establishment, staff salary and scope of work of the GISOU, its actual expenditure in 2013 and estimated expenditure for 2014;
- (2) set out in table form the actual amount of sponsorship granted to community organisations under the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme in the past year (2013); advise on the estimated total amount of sponsorship under the Funding Scheme in the coming year (2014), and whether the sponsorship will cover or is allowed to cover the sponsored organisations' salary expenses for at least one full-time staff;
- (3) set out in table form the number of enquiries and complaints received by the GISOU through the hotline in the past year (2013); and advise on the number of cases being processed and followed up, as well as the manpower and resources involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

- (1) The establishment of the GISOU comprises one officer at Executive Officer I-equivalent rank and one officer at Executive Officer II rank. In addition to managing and monitoring the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme (Funding Scheme), and handling enquiries and complaints on issues relating to gender identity and sexual orientation, the GISOU also organises publicity and education activities, including promotion of the Code of Practice

against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation. Under Programme (4), the revised estimate for promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations and transgenders in 2013-14 is \$2.98 million, of which \$0.93 million is the staff cost of the GISOU. In 2014-15, the corresponding estimate is \$3.5 million, of which the staff cost of the GISOU remains unchanged.

(2) In 2013-14, over \$830,000 has been granted to eligible organisations under the Funding Scheme to organise community projects to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations and transgenders, or provide support services for sexual minorities. In 2014-15, the estimate for the Funding Scheme will be increased by 51% to \$1.25 million. The sponsorship may be used to meet the cost of additional manpower recruited directly for the project on the condition that such cost incurred shall not exceed a specified limit.

(3) The GISOU has received a total of 49 enquiries and 5 complaints in 2013, the handling of which has been completed. Enquiries and complaints received are mainly handled by the GISOU; other senior officers will offer assistance when needed.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB003

(Question Serial No. 1250)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 9):

It is stated in this programme that the Administration will co-ordinate attendance of the HKSAR Government delegations at meetings of the monitoring bodies of United Nations human rights conventions. In this connection, will the Administration:

(1) set out in table form the number and position of the members of the HKSAR delegations attending the hearings on reports under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Convention on the Rights of the Child in 2013 and the expenditure incurred, including the air passage and hotel accommodation expenses, and overall expenses of the trips;

(2) set out in table form the estimated number and position of the members of the HKSAR delegation attending the hearing on report under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 2014 and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

The number and position of the members of the HKSAR delegations attending the hearings on reports under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 2013, and the expenditure involved are set out below:

Hearing	Number and position of delegation members	Flight ticket expenditure (\$) (A)	Hotel accommodation expenditure (\$) (B)	Total expenditure (\$) ^{note} (A)+(B)
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	<p>9 officers</p> <p><u>Expenses for the following 7 officers were met by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs; - Solicitor General, Department of Justice; - Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs; - Senior Assistant Solicitor General, Department of Justice; - Principal Assistant Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs; - Assistant Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs; and - Senior Information Officer, Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau <p><u>Expenses for the following 2 officers were met by the respective bureau/department</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Principal Assistant Secretary for Security; and - Chief Superintendent, Hong Kong Police Force 	397,110	56,432	453,542

Hearing	Number and position of delegation members	Flight ticket expenditure (\$) (A)	Hotel accommodation expenditure (\$) (B)	Total expenditure (\$) ^{note} (A)+(B)
Convention on the Rights of the Child	<p>10 officers</p> <p><u>Expenses for the following 4 officers were met by the CMAB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs; - Senior Government Counsel, Department of Justice; - Assistant Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs; and - Senior Information Officer, Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau <p><u>Expenses for the following 6 officers were met by the respective bureau/department</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare); - Principal Assistant Secretary, (Curriculum Development), Education Bureau; - Assistant Director of Immigration (Enforcement and Torture Claim Assessment); - Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Family & Child Welfare) (Acting); - Senior Specialist (Education Services), Education Bureau; and - Chief School Development Officer, Education Bureau 	142,885	17,311	160,196

- Note: (1) The above expenditure excludes overseas subsistence allowance provided to members, communication expenses, etc.
- (2) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.
- (3) Proper class of air passages was provided to officers concerned in accordance with relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and other details.
2. As the actual date of the hearing by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 2014 has yet to be finalised, we are not able to provide the estimated expenditure for government officials of the HKSAR attending that hearing.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1251)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Security

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 10):

In this programme, the Administration has set up a number of offices in the Mainland and Taiwan to assist in enhancing liaison with the Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland, and relevant authorities and organisations in Taiwan. In this connection, will the Administration:

- (1) set out in table form the respective operating expenditures of the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan in the past year (2013) and the estimated expenditure of each office for the coming year (2014);
- (2) set out in table form the number of requests for assistance "relating to immigration matters" and "relating to personal safety matters" and "other assistance cases" received by each office in the past year (2013). Please advise on the number of cases that are to be followed up, being processed and resolved;
- (3) provide information on the planned staff establishment and estimated expenditure of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Wuhan for the coming year (2014)?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

Regarding the Beijing Office (BJO), the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) in Taiwan, the revised estimate of expenditure for 2013-14 and

estimated expenditure for 2014-15 are as follows:

Office	Revised estimate of expenditure for 2013-14 (\$ million)	Estimated expenditure for 2014-15 (\$ million)
BJO	64.4	70.7
Guangdong ETO	51.4	54.9
Shanghai ETO	30.1	34.8
Chengdu ETO	33.5	36.9
Wuhan ETO#	2.5 (expenditure for early preparatory work)	30.3
HKETCO	23.7	24.0
Total	205.6	251.6

The Wuhan ETO will be set up in April 2014.

2. The number of requests for assistance received by each Mainland Office in 2013 is set out in the table below. As the nature and complexity of the cases vary greatly, further breakdown on the basis of whether the cases have been resolved is not available.

2013	Requests for assistance relating to immigration and personal safety matters	Other assistance cases
BJO	156	20
Guangdong ETO	184	73
Shanghai ETO	Covered by BJO	32
Chengdu ETO	13*	18

* Immigration Division of the Chengdu ETO commenced operation on 21 October 2013.

3. The civil service establishment of the Wuhan ETO in 2014-15 will comprise of 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 3 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer and 1 Executive Officer I (time-limited post). The provision set aside for the Wuhan ETO under Programme (3) is \$30.3 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB005

(Question Serial No. 1261)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 34):

A 5-month public consultation on selecting the Chief Executive by universal suffrage in 2017 and the method for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 is being conducted. Will the Administration set out, by using the table below, details of publicity activities held so far in which government employees and public funds are involved, including the types and objectives of activities, the promotion platforms, manpower and expenditure involved?

Type of activities	Date of activities	Promotion platform	Objective	Manpower involved	Expenditure

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

The HKSAR Government formally commenced the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 2016 on 4 December 2013. The 5-month consultation will end on 3 May 2014. Since the launch of the consultation up to 13 March 2014, the Government participated in over 90 events relating to constitutional reform, including meetings, seminars and luncheons with LegCo, political parties, District Councils, professional bodies, local and academic organisations, etc. The Government attended most of these events on invitation and no additional expenses are involved.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB006

(Question Serial No. 2905)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 22):

Will the Administration set out in the table below details of studies conducted by consultancy firm or research institution commissioned by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau over the past 3 years? Please also advise on the estimated provision for studies on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Study	Objective	Scope of study	Research Institution	Manpower involved	Expenditure

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

Relevant information on consultancy studies conducted under Programme (4) over the past 3 years is as follows:

Study	Objective	Scope of study	Research Institution	Manpower involved	Expenditure
Study on experience of overseas jurisdictions in implementing anti-stalking legislation	To study the anti-stalking legislation of overseas jurisdictions and its operation	To compare and study anti-stalking legislation in the United Kingdom, Queensland and Victoria in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, California and Nevada in the United States, and South Africa	Centre for Comparative and Public Law of the University of Hong Kong	An 8-member consultant team	\$850,000 consultancy fee
Study on discrimination experienced by sexual minorities in Hong Kong	To study whether sexual minorities are discriminated against in Hong Kong and, if so, the discrimination they experienced including the domains and forms of discrimination, and how they responded to it.	Study on discrimination experienced by sexual minorities (including homosexuals, bisexuals, transgenders, post-gays and people with other sexual orientation and gender identity)	Policy 21 Limited	A 12-member consultant team	\$445,000 consultancy fee

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0099)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 207):

- (a) Please provide the estimated provision for the salary and allowances of the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, the Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs and the Political Assistant to the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs in 2014-15 with a breakdown by the 3 posts.
- (b) How many days of paid annual leave are the above 3 politically appointed officials eligible? How many days of paid leave had been taken by them in each of the past 3 financial years?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2014-15 are \$3.38 million, \$2.20 million and \$1.18 million respectively.
- (b) Each of the above politically appointed officials is eligible for annual leave of 22 days per annum. As at 28 February 2014, the Director of Bureau had taken a total of 43.5 days of leave in the past three financial years, while the incumbent Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau had taken a total of 20.5 days and 16.5 days of leave respectively in the past two financial years. (The incumbent Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau only assumed the positions in 2012-13.)

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 3296)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 236):

According to the complaint cases my office received, the existing legislation does not impose any restriction on many conducts deemed as privacy intrusion by the public and the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) also cannot intervene in these cases. In 2014-15, will the PCPD allocate resources to conduct review and study on the relevant existing legislation and explain to the public what conducts are not covered under the existing legislation? If yes, what will be the relevant work plan, timetable and estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Upon receipt of an enquiry/a complaint, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) will clearly inform the enquirer/complainant its functions and powers as necessary.

2. PCPD has earlier conducted a comprehensive review of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (the Ordinance) and put forward proposals for legislative amendments to the Government. After public consultations and detailed scrutiny by the Legislative Council, the Ordinance was amended in 2012. PCPD has no plan to conduct a further comprehensive review of the Ordinance for the time being.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB009

(Question Serial No. 0259)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Security

This question originates from: Estimates on Expenditure Volume 1 Page 348

Question (Member Question No. 15):

Under this programme, it is stated that the Administration would provide practical assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. In this connection, will the Administration:

- (1) set out in table form the number of requests for assistance received by the Mainland Offices in the past year, the nature of these cases, the number of cases resolved and being followed up?
- (2) set out in table form the number of visits made by officials of the Mainland Offices to Hong Kong residents imprisoned by the Mainland authorities without going through legal proceedings in the past year?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

In 2013, the Immigration Divisions of the Beijing Office (BJO) and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong (Guangdong ETO) and Chengdu (Chengdu ETO) received in total 353 requests for assistance from Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. The breakdown is set out below. The nature and complexity of the cases varies greatly. Further breakdown on the basis of whether the cases have been resolved is not available.

Category	Number of Requests Received		
	2013		
	BJO	Guangdong ETO	Chengdu ETO*
Requests for assistance relating to immigration and personal safety matters (e.g. loss of travel documents or monies, persons involved in accidents, injured or in other incidents)	156	184	13
Total:	353		

* The Immigration Division of Chengdu ETO commenced operation on 21 October 2013.

2. The Immigration Divisions of BJO, Guangdong ETO and Chengdu ETO will provide practical assistance to Hong Kong residents detained in the Mainland upon request. Officers of the above offices do not have the rights and powers of visiting the detainees in the Mainland under the relevant Mainland laws and regulations. The practical assistance they may provide to the assistance seekers includes providing information on relevant Mainland laws, regulations and procedures; advising on their right to appoint legal representatives; providing contact details of local law societies; and reflecting the assistance seekers or their family members' views and requests to the relevant Mainland authorities.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB010

(Question Serial No. 2837)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 26):

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has not provided the "key performance measures" for reference in Programmes (1) and (2). Would the Administration give an account of the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

The responsibilities and aims of Programme (1) "Director of Bureau's Office" and Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" have already been set out in detail in the Controlling Officer's Report. Since it is difficult to quantify the work involved, quantitative indicators have not been set.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB011

(Question Serial No. 2838)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 26):

While the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 will be completed in May 2014, there is a significant increase of 24.3% in the estimated provision under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs". Please give a detailed account of how the additional provision will be allocated.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

Under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs", there is an increase of 24.3%, i.e. \$25.1 million, in the estimated provision for 2014-15 over the revised estimate for 2013-14. The additional provision is mainly for the following initiatives -

	Initiative	Approximate amount of additional provision (\$ million)
(1)	Public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 (excluding staff cost)	4.9
(2)	The 10 th Pan-Pearl River Delta Region Co-operation and Development Forum cum Trade Symposium (excluding staff cost)	7.1

	Initiative	Approximate amount of additional provision (\$ million)
(3)	Other constitutional and Mainland affairs and related work, for example, strengthening support for electoral affairs and operation of the Bureau	13.1

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0849)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 17):

What were the efforts made by the HKSAR's Mainland Offices in the past year in promoting Hong Kong's cultural and arts industries? How many Hong Kong cultural and arts organisations have received assistance from these offices in launching performances, painting exhibitions, auctions for sale of artworks in the Mainland, and in liaising with relevant departments/arts organisations in the Mainland? Please give details. Please advise on this year's plan for promoting local arts and culture industries in the Mainland with a view to facilitating the industries to enter into the Mainland market.

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher

Reply:

Over the past year, the Beijing Office and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices respectively in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu (Mainland Offices) have taken continuous efforts to assist in enhancing cultural and arts exchanges between Hong Kong and the Mainland, with a view to promoting Hong Kong's culture and arts industries. The initiatives include organising, co-organising or supporting the launching of film festivals, dance performances, theatrical shows, concerts, arts exhibitions, photo exhibitions, comics exhibitions, book fairs, etc., to showcase Hong Kong's unique culture and arts. Specific examples include the "Fujian Xiamen Hong Kong Week" exhibition held in Xiamen in April 2013; "A Better Tomorrow" contemporary art exhibition held in Beijing in July 2013; "Hong Kong Films Exhibition in 2013" held in Guangzhou in August 2013; "Comics Exhibition" held in Chongqing and Chengdu in November 2013 and March 2014 respectively; and philharmonic orchestra performances held in Shanghai in March 2014.

2. Over the past year, the Mainland Offices have provided assistance to a number of Hong Kong arts organisations, such as the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, Hong Kong Repertory

Theatre, City Contemporary Dance Company, Hong Kong Arts Academy, etc. in promoting their performances, and liaising and communicating with relevant authorities in the Mainland.

3. In 2014-15, the Mainland Offices will continue to assist relevant Hong Kong culture and arts organisations in liaising with the local authorities and bodies as necessary, and in promoting the related events as appropriate to support the performances of these culture and arts organisations. The Mainland Offices will continue with their efforts in promoting Hong Kong's unique culture and arts in the Mainland.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB013

(Question Serial No. 2304)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 42):

On the Bureau's operational expenses for 2014-15, there is a significant increase in provision for activities to promote equal opportunities and human rights. Please set out the planned activities and the respective estimated expenditure for promoting equal opportunities and human rights this year using the table below.

Activity	Date	Estimated expenditure

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

The activities planned for promoting equal opportunities and human rights in 2014-15 and the respective expenditure involved are as follows:

Activity	Date	Estimated expenditure
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme	June 2014 to January 2015	\$1.25 million
Various publicity measures such as Announcement in the Public Interest (API) and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities	Throughout 2014-15 financial year	\$1.32 million
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote the Code on Access to Information	Throughout 2014-15 financial year	\$0.92 million

Activity	Date	Estimated expenditure
Co-operation with Radio Television Hong Kong to produce a TV series and conduct a school outreach programme on integration with ethnic minorities	Second half of 2014 (tentative)	\$3.35 million
Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme, public education, promotional programmes and Children's Rights Forum	Throughout 2014-15 financial year	\$1.25 million

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0768)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
(4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 41):

Will the Administration advise this Committee of: the provisions for salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in the past and coming financial years; in respect of the studies on subjects relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs conducted in the past two financial years and to be conducted in the coming financial year, the detail of studies conducted or to be conducted in each year, the expenditure involved, the institutions commissioned, etc.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2013-14 are \$3.38 million, \$2.20 million and \$1.18 million respectively. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside the same amount of provisions for the salary in respect of the three positions for 2014-15.

2. The studies conducted on subjects relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs in 2012-13 and 2013-14 are listed as follows -

Title of study	Objective	Expenditure of each study	Name of institution commissioned
CEPA Implementation in Shaanxi	To understand the status of CEPA implementation in Shaanxi and explore the business opportunities of Shaanxi for Hong Kong enterprises	RMB150,000	Xi'an Jiaotong University
Study on the Experience of Overseas Jurisdictions in Implementing Anti-stalking Legislation	To study the anti-stalking legislation of overseas jurisdictions and its operation	HK\$850,000	Centre for Comparative and Public Law of the University of Hong Kong
City-specific Rental Index for Officers Posted/Seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan	To obtain the city-specific rental index for the annual revision of rent allowance for officers posted/seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan	HK\$429,000	Colliers International
Study on Discrimination Experienced by Sexual Minorities in Hong Kong	To study whether sexual minorities are discriminated against in Hong Kong and, if so, the discrimination they experienced including the domains and forms of discrimination, and how they responded to it	HK\$445,000	Policy 21 Limited
Rent Allowance for Officers Posted/Seconded to Wuhan	To determine the rent allowance for officers posted/seconded to Wuhan	HK\$85,000	Colliers International

3. The study on subjects relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs to be conducted in 2014-15 is listed below -

Title of study	Objective	Expenditure of each study	Name of institution commissioned
CEPA Implementation in Guizhou	To understand the status of CEPA implementation in Guizhou and explore the business opportunities of Guizhou for Hong Kong enterprises	Not applicable as the procurement procedures are yet to be completed	Not applicable as the procurement procedures are yet to be completed

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2598)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 66):

In respect of sex discrimination, age discrimination and pregnancy discrimination, will the Administration advise this Committee of: the number of cases relating to sex discrimination, age discrimination and pregnancy discrimination received over the past 3 years; how these cases were handled; the publicity and education programmes that focused on the above discrimination and the expenditure involved in the past 3 years; the estimated expenditure on publicity and education programmes in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) conducts review and investigation into every complaint received according to statutory requirement and established procedures. Follow-up of some cases discontinues as complainants withdraw their cases due to various reasons or there is no information to substantiate the allegations. Where possible, when handling complaints related to discrimination, the EOC will encourage conciliation between parties in dispute. In respect of sex discrimination and pregnancy discrimination, the EOC investigates complaints lodged under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance (SDO) and encourages conciliation between the parties in dispute. Where conciliation fails, a complainant may apply to the EOC for other forms of assistance including legal assistance. The number of new complaints relating to sex discrimination and pregnancy discrimination received by the EOC in the past 3 financial years are as follows:

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 (as at the end of February 2014)
Sex Discrimination*	33	26	16
Pregnancy Discrimination^	124	89	74

* Any discrimination falling within section 5 or 6 of the SDO (sex discrimination against women and men)

^ Any discrimination falling within section 8 of the SDO (discrimination against pregnant women in the employment field)

2. Since there is no legislation on age discrimination at present, the EOC does not have information on the number of such complaints and does not carry out publicity and public education on this front.

3. The EOC's expenditure on publicity and public education programmes (including manpower expenditure) is \$20.60 million, \$24.67 million and an estimated \$19.38 million in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively, while the estimated expenditure for this area in 2013-14 is \$22.45 million. About 25% of these amounts is used for the publicity and public education programmes on sex discrimination.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1636)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 7):

(a) In respect of the 5 United Nations human rights treaties placed under the purview of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, namely the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, please advise on the specific measures taken by the Administration in 2013-14 to implement the recommendations relating to Hong Kong raised in the Concluding Observations made by the respective treaty committees, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved.

(b) To continue implementing the recommendations relating to Hong Kong raised in the Concluding Observations made by the respective treaty committees of the above 5 human rights treaties, what are the Administration's specific work plan and the resources set aside for 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) takes the Concluding Observations made by the respective United Nations human rights treaty committees very seriously. In drafting the reports under the human rights treaties, relevant bureaux and departments provide responses to the concerns and recommendations raised in the Concluding Observations in respect of the previous report, and explain and update the progress of implementation of the recommendations and the relevant considerations and circumstances where applicable.

2. The responses and measures in relation to the recommendations of the human rights committees cover a wide range of areas and are included in the reports of the HKSAR in respect of these human rights treaties, which are available to the public. All relevant measures concerned are an integral part of the work of respective bureaux and departments; the expenditure involved for these measures cannot be separately quantified.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1643)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
(4) Rights of the Individual
(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 21):

Regarding the records management work of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and the department under the Bureau's purview over the past 3 years -

1. Please provide information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform such work. If there is no officer designated for such work, please provide information on the number of officers and the hours of work involved in records management duties, and the other duties they have to undertake in addition to records management;
2. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

3. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

4. Please list in the table below information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS -

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

Regarding records management work in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) and the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) over the past three years, the relevant information is provided below -

1. A Senior Executive Officer is appointed in each of CMAB and REO as the Departmental Records Manager (DRM) to establish and implement a comprehensive departmental records management programme. The DRM is assisted by officers not lower than the rank of Executive Officer II or equivalent (11 officers for CMAB and six officers for REO). Staff of individual teams/offices are responsible for the day-to-day records management activities of their own teams/offices.

Since the work is performed as part of the daily duties of the above officers, we do not keep daily logs on the number of hours of work involved in records management.

2. CMAB does not have programme and administrative records which were closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal in the past three years. The relevant information for REO is provided below -

Name of Bureau/ Department	Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
CMAB	Programme records	Nil			
	Administrative records	Nil			
REO	Programme records	1998-2011	1 274 records in 74.48 linear metres	2 to 5 years after action completed	Some are confidential
	Administrative records	2001-2011	612 records in 3.02 linear metres	1 to 3 years after action completed	Some are confidential

3. Information on programme and administrative records which were transferred to GRS for retention in the past three years is provided below -

Name of Bureau/ Department	Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
CMAB	Programme records	Nil				
	Administrative records	1975-2001	12 records in 0.61 linear metre	2011-2012	Permanent retention in Public Records Office (PRO)	No
REO	Programme records	1997-2006	18 records in 1.08 linear metres	2012-2013	Permanent retention in PRO	Yes
	Administrative records	Nil				

4. Information on records which were approved for destruction by GRS in the past three years is provided below -

Name of Bureau/ Department	Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
CMAB	Programme records	2002-2006	110 records in 2 linear metres	Not applicable	4 years after action completed	No
	Administrative records	1975-2009	1 032 records in 44.64 linear metres	Not applicable	2 to 7 years after files being inactive	No

Name of Bureau/ Department	Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
REO	Programme records	1982-2013	3 584 records in 134.12 linear metres	Not applicable	6 months to 5 years after action completed	Some are confidential
	Administrative records	1963-2012	5 733 records in 25.62 linear metres	Not applicable	3 months to 7 years after action completed	Some are confidential

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2740)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
(4) Rights of the Individual
(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 55):

1. Regarding the expenses on entertainment and gifts of your bureau and the department under its purview over the past 3 years, please provide details using the table below:

Bureau/ branch/ department and year	Estimated expenses on entertainment and gifts in the year	Actual expenses on entertainment and gifts in the year	Expenditure limit on entertainment expenses (including beverages) per head for the year	Expenditure limit on gift expenses per guest for the year	Number of receptions held and total number of guests entertained in the year

2. Regarding the expenses on entertainment and gifts of your bureau and the department under its purview in 2013-14, please provide details using the table below:

Bureau/ branch/ department	Date of reception (day/ month/ year)	Departments/ organisations and titles of the guests entertained (grouped by department/ organisation and indicating the number of guests)	Food expenses incurred in the reception	Beverage expenses incurred in the reception	Gift expenses incurred in the reception	Venue of the reception (department office/ restaurant in government facilities/ private restaurant/ others (please specify))

3. Please provide the estimated expenses on entertainment and gifts for 2014-15 using the table below:

Bureau/ branch/department	Estimated provision for expenses on entertainment and gifts	Expenditure limit on entertainment expenses per guest	Expenditure limit on gift expenses per guest

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

As a general rule, all politically appointed officials and civil servants should observe the same principles in the provision of official meals. They are required to exercise prudent judgement and economy in order to avoid any public perception of extravagance and act in accordance with the relevant regulations and administrative guidelines. According to the existing guidelines, the expenditure limits on entertainment in the form of official meals should not exceed \$450 per person for lunch or \$600 per person for dinner, inclusive of all expenses incurred on food and beverages consumed on the occasion, service charges and tips. Official entertainment provided by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) and the Registration and Electoral Office (REO), which is under the purview of CMAB, is also subject to the same principles and guidelines. In 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 (as at 28 February 2014), the actual expenses under the Departmental Entertainment Vote for local entertainment incurred by CMAB are \$168,000, \$139,000 and \$116,000 respectively. The estimated expenditure for 2014-15 is \$130,000. As for REO, the actual expenses on official entertainment incurred in 2011-12 and 2012-13 are \$3,450 and \$1,130 respectively. No expenses on official entertainment have been incurred by REO in 2013-14 and the Office has not earmarked any provision for such purpose in 2014-15.

2. In line with the Government's green policy, public officers should as far as possible refrain from bestowing gifts/souvenirs to others during the conduct of official activities. According to the existing guidelines, where bestowal of gifts/souvenirs is necessary or unavoidable due to operational, protocol or other reasons, the gift/souvenir items should not be

lavish or extravagant and the number should be kept to a minimum. Also, the exchange of gifts/souvenirs should only be made from organisation to organisation. As CMAB and REO do not specifically maintain separate accounts for the expenses on the procurement of gifts and souvenirs, relevant statistics are not available.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2872)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 50):

Please set out the specific work on, resources and manpower allocated for promoting public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law, as well as the government departments or non-government organisations that the Bureau have and will work with from 2012 to 2014, including this financial year.

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

In both 2012-13 and 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has set aside about \$16 million each year respectively for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law, including the importance of the Basic Law to Hong Kong's implementation of the principles of "One Country, Two Systems", "Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong" and high degree of autonomy. We have been adopting the following three promotional strategies:

- (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcement in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications;
- (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions; and
- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging promotional activities, such as seminars and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

The above work is undertaken by a team responsible for the promotion of the Basic Law headed by a Principal Assistant Secretary and supported by 4 officers.

2. In 2014-15, CMAB will continue to set aside about \$16 million for the promotion of the Basic Law. The focus of our promotional efforts will include constitutional development on the basis of the Basic Law.

3. Besides, the Government has been promoting the Basic Law through civic education, school education and training for civil servants. The Government has also set up the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee (BLPSC) to provide necessary steer on the overall programme and strategy for promoting the Basic Law. Based on the steer of the BLPSC and its working groups (namely Local Community; Teachers and Students; Civil Servants; Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors; and Overseas Community Working Groups), relevant bureaux/departments, including the Home Affairs Bureau, Education Bureau, Civil Service Bureau, Trade and Industry Department and Information Services Department, assist in organising related Basic Law promotional activities in their respective sectors. Regarding non-government organisations, CMAB accepts applications from non-profit-making organisations for funding support under the Basic Law Promotion Sponsorship Scheme to organise various Basic Law promotional activities.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2873)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 51):

In respect of the public consultation on constitutional reform being conducted, what specific efforts have been made to ensure that constitutional development is in line with the relevant provisions of the Basic Law? What are the work initiatives, resources and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

On 4 December 2013, the HKSAR Government formally commenced the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 2016 to prepare for the "Five-step Process" of constitutional development. The 5-month consultation will end on 3 May 2014. The Government has reiterated that constitutional development should be based on the Basic Law as well as the relevant Interpretation and Decisions of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. At this stage, the Government will continue to listen carefully to the views and suggestions from different sectors of the community and the public at large.

2. In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) and have created 7 time-limited posts, including 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post for about 2 months and 6 posts (1 Administrative Officer, 1 Senior Executive Officer, 1 Executive Officer II and 3 Assistant Clerical Officers) for 1 year for the public consultation on the two electoral methods.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB021

(Question Serial No. 2892)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 52):

Regarding one of the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15, i.e., continue to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, would the Administration please advise this Committee of whether “enhancing mutual understanding between people of the two places” or any other relevant topics have been included so as to alleviate the problems or difficulties to be encountered in the course of Mainland-Hong Kong co-operation? If so, what are the details? How much resources has the Administration set aside for this purpose? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

The Beijing Office and the 4 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan (Mainland Offices) serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland. Their major responsibilities include strengthening liaison and communication with counterparts under their geographical coverage, promoting co-operation between Hong Kong and the relevant provinces/municipalities, promoting Hong Kong, promoting economic and trade relations, supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, etc. The above work complements each other in showcasing the positive image and strengths of Hong Kong to the Mainland.

2. In 2014-15, the Mainland Offices will continue to enhance communication and publicity targeted at different sectors in the Mainland through different channels, including uploading relevant information to the offices' websites, giving media briefings or interviews, organising exhibitions and cultural performances, etc., with a view to promoting Hong Kong and fostering mutual understanding and respect between Hong Kong and Mainland people.

3. The Mainland Offices' work on promoting Hong Kong in the Mainland is an integral part of their functions. The estimated expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2893)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 53):

1. Regarding the collation of practical and useful information and dissemination of the information to Hong Kong people living in the Mainland and Taiwan as set out in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15, what are the specific work initiatives, resource input and manpower involved?
2. In collating the above information, will Mainland and Taiwan authorities be consulted or have they been consulted to improve the usefulness of the information?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

The major responsibilities of the Beijing Office and the 4 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan (Mainland Offices) as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO) include supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, promoting economic and trade relations, enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts under their geographical coverage, promoting co-operation between Hong Kong and the service area, promoting Hong Kong, etc.

2. On supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, the Mainland Offices and HKETCO collect practical information such as medical care, education, legal services etc., and disseminate such information through production of information booklets and the offices' websites to assist Hong Kong residents to adapt to living in the area. In collating and compiling the relevant information, the Mainland Offices and HKETCO will liaise with local authorities and related organisations as necessary.

3. In 2014-15, the Mainland Offices and HKETCO will continue to provide practical information to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland and Taiwan. As the work involved is an integral part of the functions of the Mainland Offices and HKETCO, the estimated expenditure and manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2419)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 18):

In 2014-15, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has committed to focus attention on and protect various rights of the individual, including equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations. In this connection, will the Administration advise on how much of the \$23 million estimated provision under the Programme "Rights of the Individual" for this financial year is intended for promoting equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations? Is there any increase in provision over the past year? What is the specific plan for promoting equal opportunities on the ground of sexual orientation?

Asked by: Hon. IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina

Reply:

The provision for promotion of equal opportunities for sexual minorities under Programme (4) in 2014-15 is \$3.95 million (including the staff cost of the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit). This represents an increase of \$0.97 million (33%) over the revised estimate for 2013-14. Of the \$3.95 million provision, \$3.5 million is for carrying out education and publicity to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities, including organising various publicity and promotion programmes, sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation to public and private sector organisations, etc.; \$0.45 million is for conducting a consultancy study about whether sexual minorities are discriminated against in Hong Kong and, if so, the discrimination they experienced including the domains and forms of discrimination, and how they responded to it. The study is still underway.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2211)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 49):

Please provide details of the study on discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation conducted by the Equal Opportunities Commission in 2013-14 (including collection of data on discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation, comparative study, exchanges with relevant personnel or organisations, etc.)

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) has advised that it has launched a study in 2013-14 on discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, including meeting with relevant organisations and preparing to commission a research project entitled "Feasibility Study of Legislation against Discrimination on the Grounds of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Intersex Status", to identify discrimination, harassment and vilification encountered by sexual minorities in the public domain, such as employment, education and training, social interaction, access to services and facilities, management of premises, etc. The study will also consult different stakeholders on the feasibility of legislating against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity. The required manpower and estimated expenditure for the study is \$0.8 million, which will be absorbed within the EOC's internal resources.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2117)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 4):

1. Please give a breakdown of the actual expenditure on salaries, regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to the Director of Bureau in 2013-14, as well as the estimate for salaries, regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to the Director of Bureau in 2014-15.
2. Please give a breakdown of the actual expenditure on salaries, regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to the Deputy Director of Bureau in 2013-14, as well as the estimate for salaries, regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to the Deputy Director of Bureau in 2014-15.
3. Please give a breakdown of the actual expenditure on salaries, regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to the Political Assistant in 2013-14, as well as the estimate for salaries, regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance payable to the Political Assistant in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2013-14 are \$3.38 million, \$2.20 million and \$1.18 million respectively. For budgetary purposes, we have set aside the same amount of provisions for the salary in respect of the three positions for 2014-15.

2. In 2013-14 and 2014-15, we do not have any expenditure or estimate of expenditure on regularly-paid allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance for the Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1913)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 26):

In 2014-15, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will continue to carry out the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016. Will the Administration advise on the details of and timetable for the consultation, the expenditure involved and the relevant staff arrangement? Please set out in table form the expenditure incurred in the past year and estimated expenditure for the coming year, including expenditure on publicity, forums, banquets etc.

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

On 4 December 2013, the HKSAR Government formally commenced the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 2016 to prepare for the "Five-step Process" of constitutional development. The 5-month consultation will end on 3 May 2014. After the consultation period, the Government will summarise and consolidate the views received. The CE will submit a report to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC) in accordance with the Interpretation made by the NPCSC in 2004 and the NPCSC will determine whether there is a need to amend the two electoral methods. After the NPCSC has made the decision, we expect the second stage public consultation can be launched in the second half of 2014, and the package of proposals to amend the annexes to the Basic Law can be put forward to the LegCo after the completion of the consultation.

2. In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) and have created 7 time-limited posts, including 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post for about 2 months and 6 posts (1 Administrative Officer, 1 Senior Executive Officer, 1 Executive Officer II and 3 Assistant Clerical Officers) for 1 year for the public consultation on the two electoral methods.

3. The expenditures for the public consultation on the two electoral methods in 2013-14 and 2014-15, together with breakdowns, are tabulated as follows:

	million (\$)	
	2013-14	2014-15
Printing	0.9	3.1
Publicity and consultation sessions	6.1	8.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.2	0.5
Total	7.2	12.1

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1914)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 27):

In 2014-15, the relevant Mainland and Taiwan Offices of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will take forward preparatory work to set up liaison units in the Northern Region and Eastern Region of the Mainland to strengthen the work of the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai. Please advise on the specific purpose of setting up the units. Please provide details of the relevant work, the expenditure involved and the staff arrangement. Have specific locations been identified?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

In 2014-15, we have set aside \$7.18 million under Programme (3) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" to take forward the work of setting up a liaison unit in the Northern Region of the Mainland this year, to be followed by another one in the Eastern Region next year. The setting up of these 2 liaison units involve creation of 4 posts, namely 2 Senior Administrative Officer and 2 Trade Officer posts.

2. The liaison units in the Northern Region and Eastern Region are set up to strengthen the work of the Beijing Office (BJO) and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Shanghai (Shanghai ETO) of the HKSAR Government in their service area. In particular, these two liaison units will assist BJO and Shanghai ETO in liaising with a province under the coverage of the respective office, and their main functions include strengthening liaison and communication with the relevant local government authorities, enhancing economic and trade relations, fostering co-operation between Hong Kong and the relevant provinces/municipalities, promoting Hong Kong, supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, etc.

3. With regard to the liaison unit to be set up by BJO in the Northern Region, having studied the matter, we consider that Shenyang City of Liaoning Province is the preferred location to set up the liaison unit, so as to facilitate Hong Kong residents and enterprises in capitalising on the opportunities brought about by the rapid development of the Northeast Region. As for the liaison unit to be set up by Shanghai ETO in the Eastern Region, as the geographical coverage of the office will be adjusted upon the establishment of the Wuhan ETO, we will decide the location of the liaison unit in the Eastern Region in the light of the new coverage area at a later stage.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1915)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 28):

One of the main responsibilities of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau under this Programme is to promote public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. Will the Administration advise on the details of the promotion work undertaken in the past year and to be undertaken in 2014-15, the expenditure involved and the staffing arrangements? Has effectiveness of such work been evaluated? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has set aside about \$16 million for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law, including the importance of the Basic Law to Hong Kong's implementation of the principles of "One Country, Two Systems", "Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong" and high degree of autonomy. We have been adopting the following three promotional strategies:

- (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcement in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications;
- (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions; and
- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging promotional activities, such as seminars and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider

audience through their extensive community networks.

The above work is undertaken by a team responsible for the promotion of the Basic Law headed by a Principal Assistant Secretary and supported by 4 officers.

2. CMAB evaluates the effectiveness of the promotional activities through different means, such as listenership of radio programmes; number of downloads of the smart-phone applications and Internet games; participation rates at events and public feedback, etc.

3. In 2014-15, CMAB will continue to set aside about \$16 million for the promotion of the Basic Law. The focus of our promotional efforts will include constitutional development on the basis of the Basic Law.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB029

(Question Serial No. 1916)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 29):

What is the expenditure for overseas duty visits made by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in the past year? What is the estimated expenditure for such visits for 2014-15, if any. If visits have been planned, please set out in table form the destination, officers joining the visit, results to be achieved and follow up action.

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

In 2013-14, a total of 57 official duty visits outside Hong Kong were undertaken by officers of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) on matters relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs and rights of the individual. The relevant information is provided below –

Place of visit/Objective	Officers joining the duty visit	Expenditure (\$)^{Note}
<ul style="list-style-type: none">promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland in places including Beijing, Shanghai, Yunnan, Guizhou, Liaoning, Guangdong, Fujian, etc.	1-8 officers of different ranks per duty visit and led by a senior officer or directorate officer.	712,400

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan • attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings in Zhejiang • participating in United Nations hearings concerning human rights in Switzerland 		
---	--	--

Note:

- (1) The above expenditure includes expenditure on hotel accommodation and flight tickets, but excludes the following –
 - (a) overseas subsistence allowance provided to officers concerned, expenses on communication, etc.; and
 - (b) the expenditure which was sponsored by the hosting government for certain duty visits.
- (2) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.
- (3) Proper class of air passages was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and details.

By conducting the above official duty visits, CMAB achieved the intended objectives and expected results, i.e., attending the meetings concerned, enhancing liaison between Hong Kong and the places of visit, and fostering co-operation and exchanges. CMAB will continue to follow up with relevant authorities and organisations on the co-operation initiatives, with a view to implementing the relevant policies and projects smoothly.

2. In 2014-15, officers of CMAB will undertake official duty visits outside Hong Kong on the basis of operational needs including promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland, enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan, and participating in concerned meetings. We do not have any specific plan for the time being.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1842)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 12):

(a) Please list out the expenditure items of, organisations responsible for and target groups of the activities for promoting human rights in 2013-14 as well as the estimated provision earmarked for activities for promoting human rights in 2014-15 and the main areas of activities.

(b) Are there any officers under the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau responsible for looking into the work and budget of other government departments for the promotion of human rights through channels like school education, community activities and other publicity activities? If yes, what are the ranks of the responsible officers?

(c) What is the total expenditure incurred by various government departments on the promotion of human rights in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

The Government's work on promoting human rights spans across a number of policy bureaux, notably the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB), the Education Bureau (EDB), the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) and the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB).

2. The CMAB has been promoting the community's awareness of, respect for and protection of human rights through the allocations to the Programmes "Rights of the Individual" and "Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data". Under these 2 Programmes, the revised estimates of expenditure for 2013-14, and the estimated expenditure for 2014-15 are \$178.8 million and \$193 million respectively.

3. The CMAB launched a series of activities for promoting human rights in 2013-14, as set out at the Annex.

4. In 2014-15, the CMAB will continue its work on promoting the rights of the individual in respect of protection for personal data privacy and human rights, promotion of equal opportunities irrespective of gender, family status, race and sexual orientation, and promotion of children's rights. The Equal Opportunities Commission and the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data will continue to carry out their publicity, promotion and education programmes and enforcement work for areas within their statutory framework.

5. The CMAB works closely with other government bureaux and departments for the promotion of human rights. For example, the EDB has been facilitating the promotion of human rights education in schools through measures such as embedding related learning elements in the curriculum, organising teacher professional development programmes, and developing learning and teaching resources, while the HAB has been promoting civic education, (including human rights) outside schools, in collaboration with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education (CPCE), through means such as providing sponsorship to community organisations to organise civic education activities and producing publicity programmes and materials. In tandem, the LWB organises territory-wide public education activities and provides sponsorship to 18 District Councils and community organisations to organise publicity programmes in the community for promoting the spirit and core values enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as well as the message of building a barrier-free and inclusive society.

6. After consulting relevant bureaux, the information provided by them is summarised as follows. Regarding the expenditure incurred in 2013-14, expenditure related to human rights education constitutes an integral part of the EDB's expenditures, and a separate breakdown of the expenditures for human rights education is not available from the EDB. Similarly, the CPCE does not maintain a separate breakdown on the promotion of specific civic values. In 2013-14, LWB's expenditure on the aforementioned public education activities was about \$13 million.

Activities on promoting rights of the individual in 2013-14 under the CMAB

Activities	Responsible organisation	Target
Publication of United Nations Human Rights reports	CMAB	Members of the public
Forums, e.g. Human Rights Forum and Children's Rights Forum	CMAB	Interested non-government organisations mainly, also open to interested members of the public
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public
Various publicity measures such as Announcement in the Public Interest (API) and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities	CMAB	Members of the public
Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public, in particular children
Co-operate with the Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) to conduct a school outreach programme on promotion of children's rights	CMAB and RTHK	Members of the public, in particular children
API to promote children's rights	CMAB	Members of the public, in particular children
Publication of comic booklets on the Convention on the Rights of the Child	CMAB	Members of the public, in particular children
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote the Code on Access to Information	CMAB	Members of the public
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote understanding of the new provisions governing the use of personal data in direct marketing in the Personal Data (Privacy) (Amendment) Ordinance 2012 which came into operation on 1 April 2013	CMAB	Members of the public

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB031

(Question Serial No. 1843)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 13):

International human rights treaties applicable to Hong Kong include the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

In the past 3 years (as at 2013-14) and in 2014-15, how much has been and will be spent by the Government on publishing promotional booklets on the above human rights treaties to promote human rights? What is the total number of copies of booklets on the text of respective treaties as well as the number of copies in different languages that have been produced? What is the total number of booklets on the text of Concluding Observations made by respective Committees on human rights treaties on Hong Kong's reports as well as the number of copies in different languages that have been produced? What is the Government's expenditure on the promotion of various treaties on the Internet? Please provide details on the work of setting out translations of the texts of various treaties, Concluding Observations and general comments on the Internet.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

Hard copies of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region's (HKSAR) reports as required under the seven United Nations (UN) human rights treaties are published in accordance with the reporting cycles of the respective treaties, and are distributed to the Executive Council, the Legislative Council, District Councils and stakeholders through various channels; they are

also available to members of the public upon request. Hard copies of the Concluding Observations made by UN treaty bodies on the reports of the HKSAR Government are attached to the papers for discussion at the relevant Legislative Council Panel meetings. To facilitate public access to the HKSAR Government's reports under these UN human rights treaties, the texts of these treaties, the HKSAR's respective reports, as well as the Concluding Observations by the relevant UN treaty bodies are available in bilingual versions on the websites of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and (as necessary) the Labour and Welfare Bureau. The General Comments made by the UN treaty bodies are available in different official languages of the UN at those bodies' websites.

2. The expenditure on publishing promotional materials on the human rights treaties concerned in hard copy (including texts of the treaties, the HKSAR's reports and other promotional materials) was \$111,000, \$70,000 and \$44,000 in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively. In 2014-15, the Administration has earmarked about \$65,000 for publishing such materials. (The relevant expenditures are incurred having regard to whether the HKSAR's reports have to be published in the concerned years and the length of the reports. Also, on the basis of environmental consideration, in addition to disseminating HKSAR's human rights reports through the Government's website, after consulting relevant parties, hard copies are distributed upon request.)

3. The Government's expenditure on the promotion of various treaties on the Internet for the past 3 years has mostly been absorbed in the expenditure for public education programmes as well as regular maintenance and updates of the websites of relevant bureaux. Separate breakdown of the expenditure is not available.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1844)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 14):

On enhancement of liaison and communication with the Central People's Government (CPG), the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland, and relevant authorities and organisations in Taiwan, please provide information on:

- (a) the details of such work
- (b) the details of Hong Kong's counterparts in the Mainland (including those at CPG and the provincial/municipal levels) and Taiwan
- (c) the details of co-operation initiatives being implemented and under planning
- (d) the progress of various initiatives

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

The Mainland and Taiwan Offices (namely the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu, as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan) serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan. Their major responsibilities include enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts in the areas under their coverage; representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests; encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong, promoting Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; promoting the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels; providing information and other

appropriate support to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland/Taiwan; and providing assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress. To perform its roles and functions, the Beijing Office maintains necessary working relationships with the ministries of the State Council (such as the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office and the Ministry of Commerce). The Mainland and Taiwan Offices also maintain necessary working relationships with the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities (such as the provincial Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Offices and Commerce Departments) in the Mainland, and relevant authorities and organisations in Taiwan under their coverage as appropriate.

2. A number of regional co-operation platforms with the Mainland provinces and municipalities have been established to promote closer exchanges and co-operation in various aspects between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Mainland. In the past three calendar years from 2011 to 2013, 16 meetings on regional co-operation with the Mainland under these platforms were convened.

3. Discussions on co-operation in various policy areas between Hong Kong and Taiwan are conducted through the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Co-operation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) platform. The ECCPC and the THEC hold a joint meeting every year. The fourth joint meeting was held in Hong Kong in September 2013; and the fifth joint meeting will be held in Taipei in the 2nd half of 2014.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1845)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 15):

On enhancement of liaison and communication with the Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland, and relevant authorities and organisations in Taiwan, please provide information on:

- (a) the respective expenditure on visits to Mainland/Taiwan authorities and trade organisations from 2011-12 to 2013-14; and
- (b) the estimated provision set aside for visits to Mainland/Taiwan authorities and trade organisations in 2014-15 and the detailed plan for such visits.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

One of the responsibilities of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices is to enhance trade opportunities in the Mainland and Taiwan. In carrying out this function, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices have been keeping close contact with the Mainland/Taiwan authorities and trade organisations. The organisations visited include the Ministry/Department of Commerce, the Ministry/Department of Human Resources and Social Security, the Hong Kong Association of China Business, the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in China, the Federation of Industries and the Association of Industry and Commerce in Taiwan. The actual and estimated number of visits of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices to these authorities and trade organisations in 2011-2014 are tabulated as follows:

	2011 (Actual)	2012* (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014^ (Estimate)
Number of visits to Mainland/Taiwan authorities and trade organisations	463	641	687	710

* Starting from 2012, the figure also covers the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan upon its establishment in December 2011.

^ Starting from 2014, the figure also covers the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Wuhan to be set up in April 2014.

2. Visits to Mainland/Taiwan authorities and trade organisations are an integral part of the work of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices. The expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1846)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 16):

On enhancement of liaison and communication with the Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland, and relevant authorities and organisations in Taiwan, please provide information on:

- (a) the respective expenditure on seminars, exhibitions and workshops organised and co-organised by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau from 2011-12 to 2013-14; and
- (b) the estimated provision set aside for 2014-15 and the detailed plan.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

One of the responsibilities of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices is to enhance trade opportunities in the Mainland and Taiwan. In carrying out this function, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices regularly organise and participate in seminars, exhibitions and workshops in the Mainland and Taiwan, including exchange seminars with Hong Kong business chambers, workshops on Mainland enterprises "going global", talks on "studies on the implementation of CEPA" and Hong Kong investment promotion seminars. The actual and estimated number of seminars, exhibitions and workshops organised and participated in by the Mainland and Taiwan Offices during 2011-2014 are tabulated as follows:

Seminars, exhibitions and workshops	2011 (Actual)	2012* (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014^ (Estimate)
Number organised	64	67	111	115
Number participated	191	213	245	255

* Starting from 2012, the figure also covers the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan upon its establishment in December 2011.

^ Starting from 2014, the figure also covers the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Wuhan to be set up in April 2014.

2. Organising and participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops are an integral part of the work of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices. The expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB035

(Question Serial No. 1847)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 17):

On the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance and the Race Discrimination Ordinance, please provide the following information:

- (a) The Equal Opportunities Commission's expenditure on and estimated expenditure for production of promotional booklets on the above ordinances to promote the message of everyone is equal in the past 3 years (up to 2013-14) and in 2014-15?
- (b) What is the total number of copies and different language versions of introduction to the above ordinances that have been produced?
- (c) What is the Equal Opportunities Commission's expenditure on the promotion of the above ordinances in the Internet?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

(a) The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC)'s expenditure on publishing promotional booklets on the above ordinances over the past 3 years (up to 2013-14) and in 2014-15 is set out below:

Year	Expenditure on publishing promotional booklets on the above ordinances (\$'000)
2011-12	590

Year	Expenditure on publishing promotional booklets on the above ordinances (\$'000)
2012-13	606
2013-14 (revised estimate)	334
2014-15 (estimate)	1,070

(b) From 2011-12 to 2013-14, the total number of copies of introduction to the above ordinances that have been produced is set out below:

Different language version	Number of copies ('000)
Bilingual in Chinese and English	500
Chinese	70
English	70
Hindi	22
Bahasa Indonesia	25
Nepali	22
Tagalog	25
Thai	30
Urdu	28
Total	792

The above publications are also uploaded to the EOC website for public access.

(c) The EOC's expenditure on the promotion of the above ordinances on the Internet, including placing online advertisements and organising video-clip production competition at social networking websites is set out below:

Year	Expenditure on online promotion (\$'000)
2011-12	944
2012-13	989
2013-14 (revised estimate)	504
2014-15 (estimate)	876

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1848)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 18):

Please list out the respective expenditure incurred by the Equal Opportunities Commission on promotion of equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities from 2011-12 to 2013-14, as well as the estimated provision set aside for 2014-15 and the detailed work plan.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

From 2011-12 to 2013-14, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) has been promoting equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities through initiatives in different aspects, including handling complaints and conducting public education programmes, as well as setting up an internal working group to conduct a study on education for ethnic minorities. These efforts are an integral part of the EOC's work, and hence no separate breakdown of resources and manpower is available.

2. In 2014-15, the EOC will set aside \$4.69 million for conducting new public education and promotion programmes and studies to promote the messages of inclusion and diversity, fostering social integration and building a caring society. The EOC's preliminary plan is to set up an Ethnic Minority Taskforce to promote the work of the EOC. The Taskforce will conduct publicity campaigns and education programmes, including new training services on cultural sensitivity and the Race Discrimination Ordinance, and organising more partnership programmes with different organisations (including the business sector) to promote equal opportunities for ethnic minorities. The Taskforce will liaise with relevant government bureaux, schools, stakeholders and service organisations, and will follow up with relevant government bureaux to enhance support for meeting the needs of ethnic minorities in education and employment.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1849)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 19):

On Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, please set out the respective expenditure of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data for promoting the Ordinance to the public sector organisations, the business sector and the public from 2011-12 to 2013-14, as well as the estimated provision set aside for 2014-15 and the details of promotion work.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

The actual expenditure of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) on promotion, publicity and education activities to enhance awareness and understanding of, and compliance with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance in 2011-12 and 2012-13 is \$1.36 million and \$5.18 million respectively (the latter includes the expenditure for a 6-episode television docudrama on protection of personal data "Privacy Beyond Price" and expenditure for promoting and publicising the provisions of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance as amended in 2012). The revised estimated expenditure for such activities in 2013-14 is \$2.38 million.

2. The PCPD has set aside \$2.13 million for promotion, publicity and education activities in 2014-15. Major activities include:

- (a) professional workshops on personal data protection – a series of professional workshops tailored for the needs of professionals in different fields dealing with personal data;
- (b) free seminars introducing the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance and seminars on

privacy concerns arising from the use of information technology for members of the public;

- (c) with respect to privacy issues associated with the increased use of mobile applications, partnering with relevant professional bodies to provide training courses and simple guides to mobile applications developers;
- (d) Privacy Awareness Week 2014 – an annual regional promotional event;
- (e) Student Ambassador Programme – a learning opportunity provided for secondary school students to foster a culture of respect for personal data privacy;
- (f) University Privacy Days – on-campus promotion of privacy protection to staff and students of the universities in Hong Kong;
- (g) activities for Data Protection Officers’ Club members, including regular meetings, introductory talks and seminars;
- (h) revamping the landing page and content of PCPD’s website, strengthening the content of the thematic websites “Think Privacy! Be Smart Online” and the “Youth Privacy Portal” launched last year; and
- (i) disseminating the messages of online privacy protection and smart use of smartphones through various channels, including exhibition roadshow, the mass media , Youtube channel and Facebook page.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0481)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 47):

With the estimated increase in the number of enquiries to 23 389 in 2014, there will be a corresponding increase in the number of complaints received and handled. Has the Administration assessed whether the existing staffing is sufficient to cope with the additional workload to ensure that complaints are handled within the target processing time? If yes, what are the details of the assessment? Will additional staff be provided? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

Under the establishment of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), there are 25 staff principally responsible for handling enquiries and complaints. EOC considers that the existing manpower is sufficient to handle enquiries and complaints within the target processing time.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0911)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 38):

The Bureau's estimated expenditure under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" is 24.3% higher than that of the previous year. Please advise on

- (a) the expenditure incurred on the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and forming the Legislative Council in 2016 (constitutional reform) last year and the estimated provision for this exercise for the coming year;
- (b) the main areas in which the additional provision is allocated;
- (c) the number of seminars hosted by the Government where Mainland officials have attended to make their stance known, since the consultation on constitutional reform is launched; the consultation activities on constitutional reform organised by the Government and attended by Mainland officials so far and the expenditure incurred on each activity?

Asked by: Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply:

- (a) In 2013-14, a revised estimate of around \$7.2 million (excluding staff cost) was provided for the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 2016. In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) for this item.
- (b) The additional provision is mainly for meeting the expenses on printing, publicity, etc.
- (c) Since the launch of the public consultation on the methods for selecting the CE in 2017 and for forming the LegCo in 2016 in last December, the Government has not held any public

seminar that involve the participation of Mainland officials. According to our records, no public seminar or related activities which involve the participation of Mainland officials were held during the previous consultation exercises on constitutional development.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0362)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 5):

The estimated provision for Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" for 2014-15 is \$251.6 million. Would the Administration please give a detailed account of:

- (1) the amount of resources allocated for taking forward preparatory work to set up liaison units in the Northern Region and Eastern Region of the Mainland; the dates on which the units are expected to commence operation and the types of services to be provided by the units;
- (2) how the work of the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai can be strengthened;
- (3) the specific plan to promote Hong Kong's strengths in the Mainland and Taiwan;
- (4) how can economic and trade liaison with the Mainland be strengthened, and investment promotion in the Mainland enhanced?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply:

In 2014-15, we have set aside \$7.18 million to take forward the work of setting up a liaison unit in the Northern Region of the Mainland this year, to be followed by another one in the Eastern Region next year. These two liaison units will assist the Beijing Office (BJO) and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai (Shanghai ETO) in liaising with a province under the coverage of the respective office, and their main functions include

strengthening liaison and communication with the relevant local government authorities, enhancing economic and trade relations, fostering co-operation between Hong Kong and the relevant provinces/municipalities and promoting Hong Kong, and supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, etc. The setting up of these two liaison units will facilitate the work of BJO and Shanghai ETO in strengthening liaison with the relevant host province as well as promoting and supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises, etc.

2. In 2014-15, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach in promoting Hong Kong and strengthening Hong Kong's economic and trade liaison with the Mainland and Taiwan through appropriate channels, including attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations, cultural exchange functions and events; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; as well as gathering relevant information on new laws and regulations, policies and latest economic developments in the Mainland and disseminating such information to the Hong Kong business sector through circulars/newsletters/press releases etc.

3. For the coming year, the Mainland Offices will continue to promote the economic interest of Hong Kong, and enhance investment promotion in the Mainland through various channels. These include attending meetings and calling on the Mainland counterparts, as well as organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops.

4. The Mainland Offices also work closely with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (TDC), which conducts thematic studies on investment environment in the Mainland. The related reports are available online at TDC's website, which is hyperlinked to the websites of Mainland Offices for easy access by the public. The Mainland Offices will also assist Hong Kong businessmen operating in the Mainland in liaising with the relevant local authorities if they wish to obtain more in-depth information about the investment potential of a particular city in the Mainland.

5. In promoting inward investment, the Investment Promotion Units of the Mainland Offices, working together with the Headquarters of Invest Hong Kong, will continue to identify potential Mainland companies in the areas that they cover; proactively approach and visit the companies identified; provide one-stop information and consultation services; and assist in organising incoming visits to facilitate the Mainland companies to set up or expand their business operations in Hong Kong.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0146)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 8):

What is the actual establishment of the Director of Bureau's Office for 2012-13? What are the actual salaries, allowances, job-related allowances, Mandatory Provident Fund contributions and Civil Service Provident Fund contributions for each post/rank?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

For 2012-13, the salaries and Mandatory Provident Fund contributions in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau are \$3.40 million, \$1.22 million (the relevant position was vacant from 1 July to 20 December 2012) and \$0.66 million (from 12 September 2012 onwards) respectively. Besides, Programme (1) comprises five civil servants (an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, a Personal Assistant, a Senior Personal Secretary, a Personal Secretary I and a Chauffeur) providing support to the office, and their salaries, allowances and job-related allowances amount to around \$2.72 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2451)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 456):

What is the existing establishment of the Director of Bureau's Office? What is the respective estimated provision for salaries for each member of the Office (including Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant, if any) for this financial year (i.e. 2014-15)?

Post/Rank	No. of members	Estimated salary expenditure (each member)	Note

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

For 2014-15, in addition to the Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau, the establishment of the Director of Bureau's Office in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau under Programme (1) comprises five civil servants (an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, a Personal Assistant, a Senior Personal Secretary, a Personal Secretary I and a Personal Chauffeur) providing support to the office.

2. For 2014-15, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau are \$3.38 million, \$2.20 million and \$1.18 million respectively. The provisions for the salaries, allowances and related expenses for the supporting civil servants amount to around \$2.92 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB043

(Question Serial No. 2375)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 18):

Quite a number of people and religious groups have been subjected to verbal abuse for disagreeing with homosexuality, and some Christian schools which requested their staff to comply with the doctrines and school missions have even been bombarded by various sides earlier, making the community worry that freedom of religious belief and freedom to preach are being jeopardised. In this connection, will the Administration advise this Council on:

The resource input for safeguarding freedom of religious belief in Hong Kong over the past 3 years and provide a detailed breakdown of the expenditure for various measures?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

Like other fundamental rights, religious freedom is protected under the Basic Law, and is widely recognised and respected in Hong Kong as evidenced by the harmonious co-existence of different religions and the fact that people are free to conduct religious and exchange activities. Over the past 3 years, the Administration has not observed a need to set aside public resources specifically for safeguarding religious freedom.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB044

(Question Serial No. 0574)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 1):

Provision for 2014-15 is \$25.1 million (24.3%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14. This is partly due to the increased provision for hosting the 10th Pan-Pearl River Delta Region Co-operation and Development Forum cum Trade Symposium jointly with Guangdong Province and Macao Special Administrative Region. What are the percentage share of the expenses of this function in the revised estimate and the actual expenses of the function?

Asked by: Hon. LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin

Reply:

The 10th Pan-Pearl River Delta Region Co-operation and Development Forum cum Trade Symposium (PPRD Forum) to be held this year will be jointly hosted by Guangdong Province, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Macao Special Administrative Region. We have earmarked about \$7.1 million (excluding staff cost) under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" in 2014-15 for expenses that may arise from related activities. As there had not been any expenses arising from the 10th PPRD Forum in 2013-14, the 2013-14 revised estimate does not include such expenses.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0575)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 2):

The estimated financial provision for the Equal Opportunities Commission in 2014-15 is \$101.4 million, which is only 7.6% (i.e. \$7.2 million) higher than that 2013-14. Please advise whether the Commission has sufficient provision to monitor discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation orientations? What are the manpower provision and expenditure in this respect?

Asked by: Hon. LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin

Reply:

The main functions of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) are to eliminate discrimination and promote equal opportunities as provided by the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance and the Race Discrimination Ordinance; it also pays attention to discrimination that may occur in other areas.

2. On discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation, the EOC has launched a study to identify discrimination, harassment and vilification encountered by sexual minorities in public domains, including employment, education and training, social interaction, access to services and facilities, management of premises, etc. The study will also consult different stakeholders on the feasibility of legislating against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity. The manpower provision and estimated expenditure of \$0.8 million will be absorbed within EOC's resources.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB046

(Question Serial No. 0576)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 3):

Please provide the following information on sex discrimination:

- (a) the number of cases relating to sex discrimination received by the Equal Opportunities Commission in the past 5 years;
- (b) the publicity and educational programmes on sex discrimination and the expenditure involved in the past 5 years;
- (c) the estimated expenditure on publicity and educational programmes in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin

Reply:

- (a) The number of complaints relating to Sex Discrimination Ordinance (SDO) received by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) from 2009-2013 is as follows:

Year	Complaint cases relating to the SDO	Self-initiated investigations on possible sex discrimination
2009	334	10
2010	284	19
2011	239	23
2012	272	10
2013	219	8

- (b) EOC's expenditure on publicity and educational programmes in the past 5 financial years (including manpower expenditure; about 25% of the expenditure is related to publicity and educational efforts on sex discrimination) is as follows –

Financial Year	Expenditure (including manpower expenditure)
2009-2010	\$18.30 million
2010-2011	\$17.15 million
2011-2012	\$20.60 million
2012-2013	\$24.67 million
2013-2014	\$19.38 million (estimated)

- (c) EOC's estimated expenditure on publicity and educational programmes in 2014-15 (including manpower expenditure) is \$22.45 million. About 25% of the expenditure is related to the publicity and educational efforts on sex discrimination.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 3077)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 113):

(a) Please list out the expenditure and manpower arrangement of the Beijing Office, other Mainland Offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan for promoting cultural exchanges in the past year, as well as the percentage of such expenditure against the total expenditure.

(b) In 2014-15, what specific plans do the Beijing Office, other Mainland Offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan have to promote cultural exchanges. What are the related expenditure and manpower arrangement?

(c) Have local cultural organisations ever approached the Beijing Office, other Mainland Offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan, reflecting the need to engage in cultural exchanges with the Mainland and Taiwan as well as to promote local culture? If yes, what is the number of such requests made and how they are handled by the Administration?

Asked by: Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply:

Over the past year, the Beijing Office and the three Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices respectively in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu (Mainland Offices), as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) in Taiwan have taken continuous efforts to assist in enhancing cultural and arts exchanges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan. The initiatives include organising, co-organising or supporting the launching of film festivals, dance performances, theatrical shows, concerts, arts exhibitions, photo exhibitions, comics exhibitions, book fairs, etc., to showcase Hong Kong's unique culture and arts.

2. Over the past year, a number of Hong Kong cultural and arts organisations such as the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, Hong Kong Repertory Theatre, City Contemporary Dance Company, Hong Kong Dance Company, Hong Kong Designers Association, Hong Kong Arts Centre, Asian Youth Orchestra, etc. approached the Mainland Offices and HKETCO, with a view to conducting cultural exchange activities in the areas under their coverage. Appropriate follow-up actions, such as assisting in promoting the performances, liaising and communicating with relevant authorities in the Mainland and Taiwan, have been taken by the Mainland Offices and HKETCO.
3. In 2014-15, the Mainland Offices and HKETCO will continue to assist relevant Hong Kong cultural and arts organisations in liaising with local authorities and bodies as necessary, and in promoting the related events as appropriate to support the performances of these cultural and arts organisations, and further promote Hong Kong's unique culture and arts.
4. As the work involved in promoting cultural exchanges is an integral part of the duties and functions of the offices, the expenditure and manpower involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB048

(Question Serial No. 3096)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 28):

One of the responsibilities of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau is to “promote public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law”. Will the Administration provide the following information:

- a. In respect of the \$16 million provision set aside for promoting the Basic Law in 2013-14, please provide a detailed breakdown of the expenditure;
- b. How does the Administration evaluate the effectiveness of promotional programmes conducted in the past year and what are the criteria for evaluation? If promotion through television or radio programmes is involved, please provide the viewership or listenership of such programmes;
- c. What is the total estimated expenditure for promotion of the Basic Law in 2014-15? Please give a breakdown of the expenditure by programmes.

Asked by: Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has set aside about \$16 million for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law, including the importance of the Basic Law to Hong Kong's implementation of the principles of “One Country, Two Systems”, “Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong” and high degree of autonomy. We have been adopting the following 3 promotional strategies:

- (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcement in

the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications. About \$4.3 million was provided for this purpose;

- (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions. About \$10 million was provided for this purpose; and
- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging promotional activities, such as seminars and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks. About \$0.9 million was provided for this purpose.

In addition, we have provided about \$1.1 million for necessary administrative support for the promotion of the Basic Law.

2. CMAB evaluates the effectiveness of the promotional activities through different means, such as listenership of radio programmes, number of downloads of the smart-phone applications and Internet games, participation rates at events and public feedback, etc. To promote the Basic Law message, CMAB has conducted 60 quiz shows (via radio programmes) which were broadcast from March to June 2013. The relevant radio programmes (part of which were the quiz shows) yielded an average listenership of some 25 000 audience per episode.

3. In 2014-15, CMAB will continue to set aside about \$16 million for the promotion of the Basic Law by adopting the above 3 promotional strategies. The focus of our promotional efforts will include constitutional development on the basis of the Basic Law.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB049

(Question Serial No. 3171)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 122):

Would the Administration please advise on the following:

- a. Expenditure incurred for reducing discrimination against new arrivals from the Mainland and Mainland tourists and the related programmes over the past 3 years.
- b. Plans in the 2014-15 Budget to curb the recent escalating discrimination against Mainland tourists or new arrivals and the estimated expenditure involved?
- c. As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15 under Programme (4) "Rights of the Individual", publicity will be enhanced to promote understanding on ethnic minorities. Please provide details of the plan and the specific expenditure items involved.

Asked by: Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply:

Hong Kong is a multi-cultural city and a harmonious community with heterogeneous diversity. The Government attaches great importance to promoting social and racial harmony among different groups of people in the city, and is committed to promoting the core values such as mutual respect for people from different backgrounds in the community and equality for all, through its public education efforts.

2. Various policy bureaux and departments have been providing a range of services in line with their respective policies to meet the needs of new arrivals from the Mainland, such as education support, employment counselling, social welfare, housing etc., to help them adapt to life in Hong Kong and facilitate their early integration into the community.

3. With regard to receiving tourists, the Administration will strengthen promotion of attractions in different districts in Hong Kong so as to offer more choices to visitors and help alleviate congestion at traditionally popular areas. The Administration will also make greater efforts to enhance our capacity to receive tourists, and endeavour to balance the impact of the tourism sector on economic development and the livelihood of our community. In addition, the Hong Kong Tourism Board will continue to promote Hong Kong's hospitality culture and, through the Internet and publicity materials, etc., advise tourists on matters they should pay attention to when visiting Hong Kong so as to enhance their understanding of the Hong Kong society.

4. As for the existing 4 anti-discrimination ordinances, there are no specific provisions on new arrivals and Mainland tourists.

5. On part (c) of the question, the Administration will promote racial equality through enhanced publicity and public education in 2014-15. The Administration will co-operate with Radio Television Hong Kong to produce a TV series and conduct a school outreach programme to help the public understand the cultures and customs of ethnic minorities, overcome barriers and eliminate discrimination. The estimated provision for the above work is about \$3.35 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 3173)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 30):

Please inform this Committee of the following:

- a. the total expenditure and a breakdown of expenses for the public consultation on constitutional development in the 2013-14 and 2014-15 financial years;
- b. the number of exchange tours to the Mainland organised or to be organised by the authorities in the 2013-14 and 2014-15 financial years, the destinations, purposes, expenditures, target participants and the number of participants; and
- c. in connection with Item (b) above, the Administration's assessment of the effectiveness of such exchange tours to the Mainland and the assessment criteria adopted.

Asked by: Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply:

In 2013-14, a revised estimate of around \$7.2 million (excluding staff cost) was provided for the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016. In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) for this item. The expenditures for the public consultation on the two electoral methods in 2013-14 and 2014-15, together with breakdowns, are tabulated as follows:

	\$million	
	2013-14	2014-15
Printing	0.9	3.1
Publicity and consultation sessions	6.1	8.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.2	0.5
Total	7.2	12.1

2. In 2013-14, an official delegation organised by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) visited Beijing and Shenyang at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The visit was conducted under the established arrangement for reciprocal visits between the HKSARG and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In November 2013, the delegation called on various departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was briefed on the current foreign policies of our nation as well as the Ministry's latest work. The delegation also called on the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office and the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council. In Shenyang, the delegation called on the provincial and municipal officials, and conducted site visits to learn about the latest developments in the region. The 11-member delegation was composed of officials from CMAB and other related policy bureaux. The total cost of the visit was about \$105,000. Such reciprocal visits help enhance communication and mutual understanding between the HKSARG and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. CMAB does not yet have any specific plan for exchange visit to the Mainland in 2014-15.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0295)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 1):

What is the reason for the net increase of 12 posts in 2014-15? What is the expenditure involved in the provision of additional staff? For each of these posts, what is the additional expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. NG Leung-sing

Reply:

A total of 13 new posts will be created, to be partly offset by the deletion of one post in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in 2014-15. As a result, there will be a net increase of 12 posts. Details of the new posts are as follows -

- (a) two Senior Executive Officer posts for supporting work on promotion of the Basic Law and regional co-operation; the annual cost involved is \$1.69 million;
- (b) seven posts at the new Economic and Trade Office to be set up in Wuhan, namely one Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, one Senior Administrative Officer, three Trade Officer, one Senior Information Officer and one time-limited Executive Officer I; the annual cost involved is \$6.83 million; and
- (c) four posts at the liaison units to be set up in the Northern and Eastern Regions of the Mainland, namely two Senior Administrative Officer and two Trade Officer; the annual cost involved is \$4 million.

The above creation of 13 new posts will be partly offset by the deletion of one time-limited Chief Executive Officer post in 2014-15 which was created for supporting the reconstruction works in the Sichuan earthquake stricken areas, and the annual cost involved is \$1.15 million. Therefore, there will be a net increase of 12 posts in 2014-15, and the net additional annual cost involved is \$11.37 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0297)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 3):

In handling public enquiries, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data managed to call back within 2 working days upon receipt of a telephone enquiry for 88% of the cases in 2013, falling short of its target of 99%. What are the reasons for that? What measures will be taken by the authorities concerned to improve the situation and meet the target of 99% in 2014. What are the resources required?

Asked by: Hon. NG Leung-sing

Reply:

Of the public enquiries received by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) in 2013, PCPD called back within 2 working days upon receipt of a telephone enquiry in 88% of the cases, which is lower than the target of 99%. This is mainly due to a surge in telephone enquiries in April and May 2013 after commencement of the provisions in the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance regulating the use of personal data in direct marketing on 1 April 2013, and as a result, in some cases, PCPD was unable to call back within 2 working days of receipt of the telephone enquiry. The number of telephone enquiries stabilised after June 2013 and PCPD resumed calling back within 2 working days upon receipt of an enquiry.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1982)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 14):

What is the specific plan for promoting the Basic Law and organising publicity activities in 2014-15? What is the estimated expenditure for such activities?

What is the specific plan for co-ordinating efforts of the HKSAR Government to complement the preparation of the National 13th Five-Year Plan in 2014-15? What is the estimated expenditure?

What is the specific plan for co-ordinating and enhancing exchanges and co-operation with Taiwan? What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has set aside about \$16 million for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. We have been adopting the following three promotional strategies:

- (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcement in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz show, Internet and smart-phone applications;
- (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions; and
- (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging promotional

activities, such as seminars and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

The focus of our promotion efforts in 2014-15 will include constitutional development on the basis of the Basic Law.

2. Under the “One Country, Two Systems” principle, the HKSAR Government has commenced the groundwork to complement the drafting of the National 13th Five-Year Plan. At this stage, relevant bureaux and departments will consult the relevant sectors and advisory committees to solicit their views on the initially identified topics for study, with a view to formulating HKSAR’s formal proposal on the National 13th Five-Year Plan for possible submission. CMAB will assist in co-ordinating the efforts of relevant bureaux and departments, and the necessary administration expenses will be absorbed by existing resources.

3. In 2014-15, the CMAB will continue to strengthen our exchanges and co-operation with Taiwan by:

- (a) proactively liaising with the Taiwan side through the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Co-operation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) platform, to take forward the priority co-operation areas between the two places concerning public policies on the economic, trade, cultural, social livelihood and other fronts;
- (b) supporting the ECCPC in organising, participating and sponsoring activities to further enhance exchanges with Taiwan, including a joint meeting with the THEC, and funding non-governmental bodies in organising activities which promote Hong Kong-Taiwan economic, trade and cultural exchanges;
- (c) facilitating Taiwan visitors from different sectors to understand the latest developments of Hong Kong and the implementation of “One Country, Two Systems”;
- (d) liaising with Taiwan organisations in Hong Kong; and
- (e) advising and assisting other bureaux and departments on economic, trade, cultural and other exchanges with Taiwan.

The CMAB has earmarked about \$12 million under this Programme in 2014-15 for supporting the activities of the ECCPC and exchanges with Taiwan.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1983)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 15):

Will the Administration advise on the specific work to be undertaken in 2014-15 to ensure that opinions expressed during the public consultation on selecting the Chief Executive by way of universal suffrage in 2017 and methods for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 will not deviate from the constitutional and legal framework constituted by Article 45 of and Annex I to the Basic Law as well as the 2007 Decision of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress? What is the specific expenditure for such work?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

On 4 December 2013, the HKSAR Government formally commenced the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 to prepare for the "Five-step Process" of constitutional development. The 5-month consultation will end on 3 May 2014. The Government has reiterated that constitutional development should be based on the Basic Law as well as the relevant Interpretation and Decisions of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. At this stage, the Government will continue to listen carefully to the views and suggestions from different sectors of the community and the public at large. In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) for the public consultation on the two electoral methods, inclusive of provisions for the expenses on printing and publicity, etc.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1984)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 16):

Please advise on the allocation of the estimated financial provision for 2014-15 to the five Mainland Offices, namely the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan? What specific plans do the Mainland Offices have to enhance the investment promotion in the Mainland in 2014-15? What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

In 2014-15, the respective provision set aside for the five Mainland Offices are: \$70.7 million for Beijing Office, \$54.9 million for Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (ETO) in Guangdong, \$34.8 million for Shanghai ETO, \$36.9 million for Chengdu ETO and \$30.3 million for Wuhan ETO.

2. A major role of the Mainland Offices is to promote Hong Kong's many advantages as a trade, investment and business hub in the region, and to attract Mainland enterprises to invest in Hong Kong. For the coming year, the Mainland Offices will continue to promote the economic interest of Hong Kong, and enhance investment promotion in the Mainland through various channels. These include attending meetings and calling on the Mainland counterparts, as well as organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops.

3. The Mainland Offices also work closely with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (TDC), which conducts thematic studies on investment environment in the Mainland. The related reports are available online at TDC's website, which is hyperlinked to the websites

of Mainland Offices for easy access by the public. The Mainland Offices will also assist Hong Kong businessmen operating in the Mainland in liaising with the relevant local authorities if they wish to obtain more in-depth information about the investment potential of a particular city in the Mainland.

4. In promoting inward investment, the Investment Promotion Units of the Mainland Offices, working together with the Headquarters of Invest Hong Kong, will continue to identify potential Mainland companies in the areas that they cover; proactively approach and visit the companies identified; provide one-stop information and consultation services; and assist in organising incoming visits to facilitate the Mainland companies to set up or expand their business operations in Hong Kong.

5. As commercial relations and investment promotion activities all aim to showcase and promote Hong Kong's strengths, they complement each other. General promotion work conducted by the Investment Promotion Units also supports the Mainland Offices' work on liaison and economic and trade affairs.

6. Invest Hong Kong has earmarked around \$2.5 million for promoting investment through the Investment Promotion Units in the Mainland in 2014-15. The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau has earmarked a sum of \$198.3 million under Programme (3) for the Mainland Offices to enhance trade opportunities, promote the strengths of Hong Kong and undertake investment promotion work, etc. The Mainland Offices' investment promotion work is an integral part of their roles and functions. The expenditure involved cannot be singled out and will be absorbed within the above provision.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB056

(Question Serial No. 1985)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 17):

What is the Administration's specific plan for enhancing publicity to promote public understanding on ethnic minorities in 2014-15? What is the expenditure involved?

What is the Administration's specific plan for promoting the rights of children in 2014-15? What is the expenditure involved?

What is the Administration's specific plan for stepping up promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations through various education and publicity measures in 2014-15? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

The Administration will promote racial equality through enhanced publicity and public education in 2014-15. The Administration will co-operate with Radio Television Hong Kong to produce a TV series and conduct a school outreach programme to help the public understand the cultures and customs of ethnic minorities, overcome barriers and eliminate discrimination. The estimated provision for the above work is about \$3.35 million.

2. In 2014-15, the Administration will continue to promote children's rights through, inter alia, the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme, the Children's Rights Forum, and continued efforts in publicity and public education. The estimated provision for the above work is about \$1.25 million.

3. In 2014-15, the Administration will continue to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities through education and publicity, including organising various publicity and promotion programmes, sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation to public and private sector organisations, etc. The estimated provision for the above work is about \$2.6 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1986)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 18):

In 2014-15, the Administration will study the discrimination experienced by sexual minorities in Hong Kong. Please advise on the specific work. On discrimination against sexual minorities in Hong Kong, what measures will be taken by the Administration to improve the situation? What is the expenditure involved?

Will the Administration enact legislation against stalking in 2014-15? If yes, please advise on the details and timetable of legislative work. If no, please give reasons.

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

In 2014-15, we will continue to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities through education and publicity, including organising various publicity and promotion programmes, sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation to public and private sector organisations, etc. The estimated provision for the above work (including the staff cost of the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit) is \$3.5 million. In addition, we have earlier commissioned a consultant to study whether sexual minorities are discriminated against in Hong Kong and, if so, the discrimination they experienced including the domains and forms of discrimination, and how they responded to it. The study is still underway.

2. We commissioned a consultant to study the experience of overseas jurisdictions in implementing anti-stalking legislation, and consulted the Panel on Constitutional Affairs on the consultant's findings and recommended formulation of the offence and exemptions on 16 December 2013. In 2014-15, we will carefully consider the findings and recommendations of

the consultant and also listen to the views of stakeholders, with a view to formulating an appropriate way forward. We do not have any plan to enact legislation against stalking for the time being.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1987)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 19):

What is the Equal Opportunities Commission's specific plan for reviewing the Code of Practice on Employment under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance in 2014-15? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

What is the Equal Opportunities Commission's specific plan for promoting equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities in 2014-15? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

What is the Equal Opportunities Commission's specific plan for promoting integrated education and employment opportunities for students with special education needs in 2014-15? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

What specific measure will be taken by the Equal Opportunities Commission to improve management and the mode of operation in 2014-15? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) has advised that it is reviewing the Code of Practice on Employment under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, and the initial draft report is expected to be completed by the end of 2014. The preliminary review work will be absorbed within the EOC's internal resources. After completion of the preliminary work, stakeholders and the public will be consulted. The estimated expenditure involved is unavailable for the time being.

2. In 2014-15, the EOC will set aside \$4.69 million for conducting new public education and promotion programmes and studies to promote the messages of inclusion and diversity, fostering social integration and building a caring society. The EOC's preliminary plan is to set up an Ethnic Minority Taskforce to promote the work of the EOC. The Taskforce will conduct publicity campaigns and education programmes, including new training services on cultural sensitivity and the Race Discrimination Ordinance, and organise more partnership programmes with different organisations (including the business sector) to promote equal opportunities for ethnic minorities. The Taskforce will liaise with relevant government bureaux, schools, stakeholders and service organisations, and will follow up with relevant government bureaux to enhance support for meeting the needs of ethnic minorities in education and employment.

3. In 2014-15, the EOC will enhance public knowledge of policy on integrated education. The related work will be undertaken by an internal working group which will put forth a specific work plan and budget to the EOC Board for consideration. The EOC will continue to actively maintain dialogue with stakeholders.

4. In 2014-15, the EOC will continue to enhance its internal management and operation capabilities. Specific initiatives include (a) putting in place structured training and development programmes to help its staff acquire the necessary competencies, such as management capability and leadership, and increase their knowledge of equal opportunities; (b) conducting an annual Customer Satisfaction Survey in respect of its statutory complaint handling mechanism, and following up with the findings of the survey and putting forward recommendations; and (c) conducting regular reviews to improve its policies, systems and procedures, and implementing improvement measures accordingly. The initiatives constitute an integral part of the EOC's work, hence a separate breakdown on the related expenditure is not available; but the EOC has set aside \$0.15 million for engaging an independent consultant to conduct the Customer Satisfaction Survey as stated in (b).

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1988)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 20):

On enforcing the new regulatory regime on direct marketing under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, what specific plan does the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data have to promote the new regime? What is the estimated expenditure?

What specific plan does the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data have to step up efforts to take forward the legal assistance scheme under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance in 2014-15? What is the estimated expenditure?

What specific plan does the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data have to pursue major promotional activities in 2014-15? What is the estimated expenditure?

What specific plan does the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data have to strengthen its manpower in 2014-15? What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

To implement the new provisions of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance on direct marketing and legal assistance scheme which came into operation on 1 April 2013, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) launched a wide range of publicity and education activities since January 2013. In 2014-15, the PCPD will continue with its public education and publicity efforts through its website, guidance notes and information leaflets, as well as organising professional workshops on data protection for data users. On the legal assistance scheme, the PCPD will, upon settling a complaint case and in accordance with procedures, inform the complainant whose privacy has been invaded of the legal assistance that

could be made available. The PCPD has set aside \$2.13 million for promotion, publicity and education programmes in 2014-15 which includes publicity and education relating to direct marketing and legal assistance.

2. In 2014-15, PCPD's planned promotion, publicity and education activities include:

- (a) professional workshops on personal data protection – a series of professional workshops tailored for the needs of professionals in different fields dealing with personal data;
- (b) free seminars introducing the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance and seminars on privacy concerns arising from the use of information technology for members of the public;
- (c) with respect to privacy issues associated with the increased use of mobile applications, partnering with relevant professional bodies to provide training courses and simple guides to mobile applications developers;
- (d) Privacy Awareness Week 2014 – an annual regional promotional event;
- (e) Student Ambassador Programme – a learning opportunity provided for secondary school students to foster a culture of respect for personal data privacy;
- (f) University Privacy Days – on-campus promotion of privacy protection to staff and students of the universities in Hong Kong;
- (g) activities for Data Protection Officers' Club members, including regular meetings, introductory talks and seminars;
- (h) revamping the landing page and content of PCPD's website, strengthening the content of the thematic websites "Think Privacy! Be Smart Online" and the "Youth Privacy Portal" launched last year; and
- (i) disseminating the messages of online privacy protection and smart use of smartphones through various channels, including exhibition roadshow, the mass media, Youtube channel and Facebook page.

3. The increased subvention for the PCPD in 2014-15 includes \$4.21 million for the creation of 7 posts (1 Legal Counsel, 5 Assistant Personal Data Officer and 1 Assistant Information Technology Officer posts) to handle the increased number of complaints and enquiries arising from the newly amended Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB060

(Question Serial No. 0551)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from: Estimates on Expenditure Volume 1 Page 347

Question (Member Question No. 3):

In 2014-15, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will continue to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, targeting in particular at Guangdong, Beijing, Shanghai, the Chengdu-Chongqing Economic Zone, the Economic Zone on the West Coast of the Taiwan Strait and other provinces and regions in the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region. In this connection, will the Administration advise this Committee of the total estimated expenses for the relevant work and the percentage share of expenses by provinces/regions/zones?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

Policy matters on deepening regional co-operation under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" are mainly handled by 2 teams of staff in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB). In addition, the Beijing Office and the 4 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan (Mainland Offices) respectively under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" play a leading and co-ordinating role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. As the work involved is an integral part of the duties and functions of the officers concerned in the CMAB and the Mainland Offices, the manpower provision cannot be singled out or quantified by regions. Generally speaking, an estimated financial provision of about \$151 million (excluding staff cost) under the 2 said Programmes is for the CMAB and the Mainland Offices to take forward the work to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland in 2014-15.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0552)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 4):

In 2014-15, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will commence preparatory work for the District Council election to be held in 2015. Will the Administration advise this Committee of the specific work involved in the preparatory work, as well as provide a breakdown of the estimated expenditure and timetable for taking forward the work?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) will work closely with the Electoral Affairs Commission (EAC) to take forward preparatory work for the District Council election to be held in 2015, including following up with legislative amendments in light of EAC's recommendations on the boundaries of District Council constituency areas for the 2015 District Council ordinary election and the decision made by the Chief Executive in Council in this respect, and reviewing various electoral arrangements.

2. These tasks are CMAB's routine election-related policy work and will be carried out by the staff in the existing establishment of the Bureau.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0553)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 5):

In 2014-15, the relevant Mainland and Taiwan Offices will take forward preparatory work to set up liaison units in the Northern and Eastern Regions of the Mainland to strengthen the work of the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai. Will the Administration advise on the specific work plan, as well as provide a breakdown of the estimated expenditure and timetable for carrying out the work?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

We plan to set up a liaison unit in the Northern Region of the Mainland, to be followed by another one in the Eastern Region in the coming two years to strengthen the work of the Beijing Office (BJO) and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai (Shanghai ETO).

2. Firstly, we intend to set up a liaison unit under BJO in the Northern Region this year. Having studied the matter, we consider that Shenyang City of Liaoning Province is the preferred location to set up the liaison unit, so as to facilitate Hong Kong residents and enterprises in capitalising on the opportunities brought about by the rapid development of the Northeast Region.

3. As the next step, we plan to set up a liaison unit in the Eastern Region under Shanghai ETO next year. As the geographical coverage of the office will be adjusted upon the establishment of the Wuhan ETO, we will decide the location of the liaison unit in the Eastern Region in light of the new coverage at a later stage.

4. In 2014-15, we have set aside \$7.18 million under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" for the establishment of a liaison unit each under BJO and Shanghai ETO, of which \$4.38 million is for meeting recurrent expenditure while \$2.8 million is for meeting the

one-off setting up cost.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0554)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 6):

In 2014-15, the relevant Mainland and Taiwan Offices will promote the strengths of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan. Will the Administration advise this Committee of the specific details of the work, and provide a breakdown of the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach in promoting Hong Kong through appropriate channels, including attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations, cultural exchange functions and events; visiting enterprises with potential and interest in investing in Hong Kong; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; and issuing circulars, newsletters and press releases.

2. The Mainland and Taiwan Offices' work on promoting Hong Kong is an integral part of their roles and functions. The estimated expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0060)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and
Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 13):

Under this programme, it is stated that provision for 2014-15 is \$11 million (6.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14. This is mainly due to increased subvention to strengthen the capacity of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) and the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (Privacy Commissioner's Office) to discharge their statutory duties. Please give a detailed account of how the increased subvention can strengthen the capacity of the EOC and the Privacy Commissioner's Office in discharging their statutory duties. What are the specific measures? Will these measures include recruiting additional manpower and/or increasing salary and benefits of existing staff? If so, what is the increased expenditure on salary and benefits involved?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

The increased provision of \$11 million under Programme (5) is mainly for providing additional subvention to the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) for creating 7 posts to strengthen promotion and public education on matters relating to the Race Discrimination Ordinance; and for providing additional subvention to the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) for creating 7 posts to strengthen its manpower to handle the increased number of complaints and enquiries arising from the amendment of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance.

2. The terms and conditions for the employees of EOC and PCPD are expected to remain the same in 2014-15.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0061)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 14):

It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention under this programme that the Privacy Commissioner will take steps to improve protection of personal data privacy in the use of mobile applications. Would the Administration please provide details of the steps to be taken.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) will take the following measures to improve protection of personal data privacy in the use of mobile applications:

- (a) organising more talks to share with members of the public how to protect their personal data privacy when using mobile applications;
- (b) disseminating educational messages through strengthening the content of the thematic websites "Think Privacy! Be Smart Online" and the "Youth Privacy Portal";
- (c) organising talks/seminars for the mobile applications development industry (the industry) to enhance their knowledge on personal data privacy protection;
- (d) collaborating with the industry to develop more practical guidance on compliance with provisions in the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance;
- (e) continuing to conduct random checks on mobile applications to ascertain the

availability, accessibility and readability of privacy policy, and taking enforcement actions as appropriate; and

- (f) co-operating with other privacy protection authorities through sharing of views, intelligence and knowledge, to facilitate PCPD to keep abreast of latest developments on mobile applications and the implications on personal data privacy protection.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0065)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 1):

There is a significant increase of \$73.88 million (i.e. 14.9%) in provision under these programmes for this financial year when compared with that for last year. According to the Administration, the increased provision is for carrying out the public consultation on constitutional reform, hosting the 10th Pan-Pearl River Delta Region Co-operation and Development Forum cum Trade Symposium jointly with Guangdong Province and Macao Special Administrative Region, as well as meeting the expenditure on salaries arising from the creation of new posts. In respect of the increased provision for this financial year, would the Administration advise on:

- a. the estimated provision earmarked for the public consultation on constitutional reform and the details of the related work;
- b. the total expenses of the 10th Pan-Pearl River Delta Region Co-operation and Development Forum cum Trade Symposium; whether the expenses will be shared among Hong Kong, Guangdong Province and Macao Special Administrative Region; what are the percentage shares of the three places;
- c. the details of the 12 posts to be created?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

- (a) In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" to carry out the public consultation on the

methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 to meet the expenses of publication, publicity, etc.

- (b) The 10th Pan-Pearl River Delta Region Co-operation and Development Forum cum Trade Symposium (PPRD Forum) will be jointly hosted by Guangdong Province (Guangdong), Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (Hong Kong) and Macao Special Administrative Region (Macao). As details of the event are being discussed among governments of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, information on the total amount of expenses, the percentage share of each hosting party, etc. is not available for the time being. We have earmarked about \$7.1 million (excluding staff cost) under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" in 2014-15 for expenses that may arise from related activities.
- (c) A total of 13 new posts will be created, to be partly offset by the deletion of one post under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" and Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" in 2014-15. As a result, there will be a net increase of 12 posts. Details of the new posts are as follows -
 - (i) 2 Senior Executive Officer posts for supporting work on promotion of the Basic Law and regional co-operation respectively;
 - (ii) 7 posts at the new Economic and Trade Office to be set up in Wuhan, namely 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 3 Trade Officer, 1 Senior Information Officer and 1 time-limited Executive Officer I posts; and
 - (iii) 4 posts at the liaison units to be set up in the Northern and Eastern Regions of the Mainland, namely 2 Senior Administrative Officer and 2 Trade Officer posts.

The above creation of 13 new posts will be partly offset by the deletion of one time-limited Chief Executive Officer post in 2014-15 which was created for supporting the post-quake reconstruction works in Sichuan. Therefore, there will be a net creation of 12 posts in 2014-15.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0635)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Security

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 32):

The Brief Description under this Programme sets out the main responsibilities of the Mainland Offices, which include providing practical assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. Will the Government advise on the number of cases in which assistance from the Mainland Offices is sought by Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland in the past 4 years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14)? What is the amount of expenses incurred by the Mainland Offices in providing assistance to these residents?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

In 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013, the Immigration Divisions of the Mainland Offices (including the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong and Chengdu ^{note}) received respectively in total 357, 501, 362 and 353 requests for assistance from Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland. As the work involved in providing assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in the Mainland is an integral part of the duties and functions of the officers concerned, the manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

(^{note} The Immigration Division of Hong Kong and Economic Trade Office in Chengdu commenced operation on 21 October 2013.)

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2518)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 27):

It is set out in Matters Requiring Special Attention under this Programme that the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will engage the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) to take forward various priority co-operation areas agreed between the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Co-operation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) and the THEC. Will the Administration:

- a. provide details of the priority co-operation areas agreed between the ECCPC and the THEC;
- b. advise on the number of bilateral meetings between the ECCPC and the THEC since their establishment; the topics discussed at the meetings and the expenditure incurred on such meetings?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

Since their establishment in 2010, the Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Co-operation and Promotion Council (ECCPC) and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council (THEC) have taken turns to convene 4 annual joint meetings in Hong Kong and Taipei to promote Hong Kong-Taiwan co-operation in various priority areas on the economic and trade, cultural, tourism, social livelihood, city management and law enforcement exchanges fronts. After each annual joint meeting, the ECCPC and the THEC will hold a press conference and issue press releases to report on the discussion topics and outcomes.

2. The financial implications of convening a joint meeting on this Bureau depend on which side is hosting it. If the meeting is hosted by the ECCPC in Hong Kong, the relevant

expenditures will include the venue and facilities rental. Taking the annual joint meeting hosted by the ECCPC in Hong Kong in 2013 as an example, the relevant expenditure was about \$140,000. If the meeting is to be hosted by the THEC in Taipei, the expenditures will include the costs of air tickets, accommodation, etc. for relevant members of the ECCPC delegation visiting Taipei. Taking the annual joint meeting hosted by the THEC in Taipei in 2012 as an example, the relevant expenditure involving officers of this Bureau and non-official members of the ECCPC was about \$110,000. In addition, as the secretariat to the ECCPC, this Bureau coordinates the participation of other bureaux and departments concerned in the annual joint meetings. As such work is an integral part of our duties for supporting the ECCPC, the manpower expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0993)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 42):

Provision for 2014-15 is \$25.1 million (24.3%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14. As explained by the Administration, this is mainly due to increased provision for carrying out the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 2016, and hosting the 10th Pan-Pearl River Delta Region Co-operation and Development Forum cum Trade Symposium jointly with Guangdong Province and Macao Special Administrative Region. In addition, there will be a net increase of 1 post in 2014-15.

What is the provision for the public consultation on the methods for selecting the CE and for forming the LegCo? Where and when will the 10th Pan-Pearl River Delta Region Co-operation and Development Forum cum Trade Symposium be held? What are the related expenses to be borne by Hong Kong, Guangdong Province and Macao?

Please also give an account of the post to be created, what are the scope of work and salary expenses?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply:

In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" to carry out the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 to meet the expenses of publication, publicity, etc.

2. The 10th Pan-Pearl River Delta Region Co-operation and Development Forum cum Trade Symposium (PPRD Forum) will be jointly hosted by Guangdong Province (Guangdong),

Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (Hong Kong) and Macao Special Administrative Region (Macao) this year. As details of the event are being discussed among governments of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, information on when and where the Forum will be held, or the percentage share of expenses of each hosting party, etc. is not available for the time being. We have earmarked about \$7.1 million (excluding staff cost) under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" in 2014-15 for expenses that may arise from related activities.

3. A total of two new posts will be created, to be partly offset by the deletion of one post under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" in 2014-15. As a result, there will be a net increase of one post. The new posts include two Senior Executive Officer posts which are responsible for supporting work on promotion of the Basic Law and regional co-operation respectively. The expenditure involved for each of the Senior Executive Officer post is \$0.85 million per year. The creation of these two new posts will be partly offset by the deletion of one time-limited Chief Executive Officer post in 2014-15 which was created for supporting the post-quake reconstruction works in Sichuan. Therefore, there will be a net increase of one post in 2014-15.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0994)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 46):

In promoting economic and cultural exchanges with Taiwan, what have been achieved by the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan in the past year. In future, what initiatives will be taken to further promote exchanges between Hong Kong and Taiwan. Have efforts been made by the Office to understand the situation of Hong Kong people in Taiwan? Will consideration be given to arrange visits of more higher rank officials to Taiwan to further business and commerce development of both sides?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply:

To promote economic and cultural co-operation and exchanges between Hong Kong and Taiwan, the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO) organised and participated in 40 trade seminars and exhibitions and over 30 cultural promotional events; made about 110 calls on Taiwan authorities and major trade organisations; gave or issued nearly 100 media interviews, newsletters and press releases. Such efforts engaged different sectors and received extensive media coverage and positive feedback from the Taiwan community. The performance indicators for the HKETCO in 2013 are set out in the **Annex**. The HKETCO will continue with the above efforts in the coming year.

2. One of the HKETCO's functions is to provide assistance to Hong Kong residents in Taiwan to the extent possible. As such, the Office has been maintaining close liaison with associations of Hong Kong people and students to keep abreast of their living situation; visiting those Taiwan tertiary institutions with more Hong Kong students to better understand their learning experience; and assisting in the handling of enquiries and requests for assistance from Hong Kong people. In 2014-15, the HKETCO will continue with these efforts.

3. On officials who visited Taiwan in 2013-14, the Financial Secretary, the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, the Secretary for the Environment and the Secretary for Development visited Taipei in June 2013 to attend the “Hong Kong-Taipei Inter-city Forum” jointly organised by the HKETCO and the Taipei City Government. Separately, the Secretary for Transport and Housing led a delegation to Taiwan in October 2013 to promote Hong Kong’s maritime services and contacts between the trades of the two places. The Secretary for Home Affairs visited Taipei in November 2013 to officiate at the opening ceremony of “Hong Kong Week 2013: Legacies & Innovations”. During their visits, the above principal officials also called on their counterparts of the relevant Taiwan authorities to promote exchanges and co-operation between the two places on their respective policy areas. In 2014-15, the HKETCO will continue to assist in planning the visit programmes of principal officials to Taiwan and provide support as necessary.

**Performance indicators for the
Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (Taiwan) in 2013**

Enhancing Trade Opportunities	
Meetings on trade-related matters attended	22
Visits to Taiwan authorities and trade organisations	61
Seminars, exhibitions and workshops	
- organised	5
- participated	35
Public speeches given	4
Media interviews/briefings given	10
Circulars/newsletters/press releases issued	15
Promotion of strengths of Hong Kong	
Call on senior officials/personnel/organisations	47
Public relations/cultural functions/events	
- organised	15
- participated	18
Newsletters/pamphlets/press releases issued	29
Number of visitors assisted	390
Public speeches given	15
Media interviews/briefings given	44
Enquiries handled (excluding those related to immigration matters)	2 159
Investment Promotion	
New projects generated	15
Projects completed	7

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1113)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 43):

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will take forward preparatory work to set up liaison units in the Northern and Eastern Regions of the Mainland. What are the specific locations of the units and the criteria for determining the locations? When will the units be formally set up and commence operation? What are the recurrent and non-recurrent expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply:

We plan to set up a liaison unit in the Northern Region of the Mainland, to be followed by another one in the Eastern Region in the coming two years to strengthen the work of the Beijing Office (BJO) and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai (Shanghai ETO). In deciding the location of the liaison units, we will take into account relevant factors, including the positioning, development situation and potential of the provinces/municipalities concerned, their economic and trade relations with Hong Kong and room for complementarities, views of the industries, synergy with offices of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and Hong Kong Tourism Board in the Mainland.

2. Firstly, we intend to set up a liaison unit under BJO in the Northern Region this year. Having studied the matter, we consider that Shenyang City of Liaoning Province is the preferred location to set up the liaison unit, so as to facilitate Hong Kong residents and enterprises in capitalising on the opportunities brought about by the rapid development of the Northeast Region.

3. As the next step, we plan to set up a liaison unit in the Eastern Region under Shanghai ETO next year. As the geographical coverage of the office will be adjusted upon the

establishment of the Wuhan ETO, we will decide the location of the liaison unit in the Eastern Region in light of the new coverage at a later stage.

4. In 2014-15, we have set aside \$7.18 million under Programme (3) “Mainland and Taiwan Offices” for the establishment of a liaison unit each under BJO and Shanghai ETO, of which \$4.38 million is for meeting recurrent expenditure while \$2.8 million is for meeting the one-off setting up cost.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0149)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 80):

What are the estimated provisions for the salary and allowances in respect of the positions of Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2014-15 are \$2.20 million and \$1.18 million respectively.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB073

(Question Serial No. 2723)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 89):

Please advise on the public relations functions, cultural events and the themes of public speeches that the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan has confirmed to organise in 2014 and 2015.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

According to its current plan, the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO) will organise or co-organise the following public relations functions and cultural events in 2014 and 2015:

- (a) investment promotion and trade seminars in major Taiwan cities and counties to promote Hong Kong's various advantages, and encourage Taiwan enterprises to invest in Hong Kong;
- (b) a series of talks on Hong Kong culture in major Taiwan cities and counties to promote cultural exchanges between the two places, and cultural activities co-organised with the city and county authorities to promote Hong Kong's unique culture and image;
- (c) the annual "Hong Kong Week" activities co-organised with the Hong Kong-Taiwan Cultural Co-operation Committee to showcase Hong Kong's unique arts and culture to the Taiwan community;
- (d) an inter-city forum jointly organised with the city and country authorities to publicise the experience and success stories of Hong Kong in city management;

and

- (e) joint activities with the Taiwan offices of the Hong Kong Tourism Board and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council to strengthen liaison with different sectors in Taiwan.

The HKETCO will arrange senior officers to give public speeches on relevant themes at the above functions and events.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB074

(Question Serial No. 2724)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 90):

What is the estimated entertainment expenditure of the Mainland Offices for 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

The estimated entertainment expenditure of the Mainland Offices for 2014-15 is about \$1.4 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2725)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 91):

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau is conducting the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 (constitutional reform). Will the Bureau advise on the estimated expenditure for the work relating to constitutional reform in 2014-15. Upon completion of the public consultation, what specific plan does the Bureau have to take forward the work?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) for the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 2016.

2. After the consultation period, the Government will summarise and consolidate the views received. The CE will submit a report to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC) in accordance with the Interpretation made by the NPCSC in 2004 and the NPCSC will determine whether there is a need to amend the methods for selecting the CE and for forming the LegCo. After the NPCSC has made the decision, we expect the second stage public consultation can be launched in the second half of 2014, and the package of proposals to amend the annexes to the Basic Law can be put forward to the LegCo after the completion of the consultation.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB076

(Question Serial No. 2918)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 92):

What specific publicity plan does the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau have to promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations to religious groups with different stances, as well as primary and secondary schools in the community?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

In 2014-15, we will continue to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities through education and publicity, including organising various publicity and promotion programmes, sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation to public and private sector organisations, etc. The estimated provision for the above work (including the staff cost of the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit) is \$3.5 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1267)

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 40):

In the coming year, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will launch a voter registration (VR) campaign, including the updating of the registers of electors and the related publicity measures to encourage eligible persons (including young persons in particular) to register as electors. In this connection, would the Administration:

- (1) set out in table form project items and expenditure for the VR exercise conducted by REO in the past year?
- (2) advise on the estimated manpower and expenditure for the VR exercise to be conducted in the coming year? And in what ways will the Administration encourage eligible persons to register as electors?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) carried out the following publicity activities for the 2013 Voter Registration (VR) campaign:

- (a) issuing leaflets, riding on the water bills sent to around 2.7 million households, to appeal to eligible persons to register as electors, and registered electors who have moved home to update their residential addresses;
- (b) broadcasting five television one-minuters to promote VR and emphasise the civic responsibility for registered electors to update their residential addresses;
- (c) broadcasting a new series of Announcements in the Public Interests (“APIs”) on

television and radio appealing for new registrations and reminding registered electors to notify the REO of change of residential address;

(d) placing advertisements in newspapers and popular websites and displaying posters to encourage new registrations and timely updating of registered particulars;

(e) setting up registration counters at the five Registration of Persons Offices of the Immigration Department to facilitate and encourage young people applying for or collecting adult identity cards at those Offices to register as electors; and

(f) issuing appeal letters to households which have moved into newly developed residential buildings to remind them to report change of address or register as electors.

In 2013-14, all VR-related work was carried out by a team comprising 86 civil servants and 46 non-civil service contract staff in the REO. Their work included handling applications, carrying out the above publicity activities, compiling and publishing the provisional and final registers, as well as implementing the checking measures. The staff cost and the related operational expenses were around \$39 million.

2. Regarding the 2014 VR campaign, the REO will through different media continue to encourage eligible persons to register as electors if they have yet to do so and remind electors to fulfill their civic responsibility to update their registered particulars. Publicity measures include:

(a) broadcasting of APIs on television, radio and the internet appealing for new registrations; and reminding registered electors to notify the REO of any change of residential addresses and to provide or update their email addresses;

(b) placing advertisements in newspapers, popular websites and mobile applications to encourage new registrations and timely updating of registered particulars by electors;

(c) setting up registration counters at the Registration of Persons Offices of the Immigration Department to encourage and facilitate young people applying for or collecting adult identity cards at those Offices as well as other eligible persons to register as electors;

(d) displaying posters in universities, tertiary institutions and secondary schools to appeal to students who have reached the age of 18 to register as electors;

(e) issuing appeal letters to households which have moved into newly developed housing estates to remind them to update their addresses or register as electors; and

(f) displaying posters at the advertising light boxes of bus stops over the territory and displaying posters and distributing VR forms at district offices, public housing estate management offices, government departments and social services institutions.

To encourage young people to come forward to register, the REO will continue to reach out and disseminate VR information to young people in the 2014 VR cycle through various media in addition to the traditional ones and look for other suitable channels, such as large scale events with participation of young people, to launch VR publicity. In 2014-15, the REO will form a

team comprising 92 civil servants (including 6 newly added time-limited civil service posts) and around 200 non-civil service contract staff to carry out all VR-related work, including handling applications, carrying out the above publicity activities, compiling and publishing the provisional and final registers, as well as implementing checking measures. The estimated expenditure on staff cost and related operational expenses are around \$69 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2839)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 27):

Provision for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Registration and Electoral Office for 2014–15 is 225.6% higher than the revised estimate for 2013–14. In addition, it is expected that 75 posts will be created. Please set out in detail the ranks, nature of work and the expenditure to be incurred of the newly created posts.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office will create 75 posts in 2014-15, mainly responsible for the preparation for the 2015 District Council (DC) ordinary election, including amendments to relevant electoral legislation, delineation of 2015 DC constituency areas, review and updating of guidelines on election-related activities, and other electoral arrangements such as reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for use as polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises for the appointment of polling and counting staff and organising training programmes for them, acquiring electoral materials and support services, and organising large-scale voter registration publicity in preparation for the 2015 DC ordinary election.

2. These 75 posts include 1 Principal Executive Officer, 4 Chief Executive Officer, 13 Senior Executive Officer, 29 Executive Officer I, 4 Executive Officer II, 5 Clerical Officer, 9 Assistant Clerical Officer, 2 Clerical Assistant, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Senior Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Officer, 2 Assistant Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Supervisor II, 1 System Manager and 1 Analyst/Programmer I. The estimated salary expenditure for these posts is around \$35 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2765)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 19):

Student organisations are lobbying political parties of the pan-democratic camp to trigger a “resignation en masse in the five geographical constituencies” in an attempt to hold a de facto “referendum” for “civic nomination” through by-election arising from the resignation of Legislative Council members. Has the Administration earmarked any resources for organising by-election in the event of a “resignation en masse in the five geographical constituencies”? If yes, what is the amount? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has not earmarked any provision in 2014-15 for organising by-election arising from the possible occurrence of the so-called “resignation en masse in the five geographical constituencies”. If such a need arises, the REO will seek approval for additional funding to meet the required expenditure according to the established procedures.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2766)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No.20):

The Registration and Electoral Office will create 75 posts in 2014-15 to carry out election-related work. Please set out the details about these 75 posts. In addition, what is the annual recurrent expenditure required for these new posts?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office will create 75 posts in 2014-15 to carry out election-related work. These 75 posts include 1 Principal Executive Officer, 4 Chief Executive Officer, 13 Senior Executive Officer, 29 Executive Officer I, 4 Executive Officer II, 5 Clerical Officer, 9 Assistant Clerical Officer, 2 Clerical Assistant, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Senior Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Officer, 2 Assistant Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Supervisor II, 1 System Manager and 1 Analyst/Programmer I. The estimated salary expenditure for these posts is around \$35 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2767)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 21):

There will be an increase of 19 seats in the 2015 District Council (DC) Election. Regarding the expenditure to be used for the preparation of the DC Election in 2014-2015, has the Registration and Electoral Office assessed whether these new seats would create additional expenses? If yes, what will be the amount incurred?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

In 2014-15, the preparation for the 2015 District Council (DC) ordinary election mainly include amendments to relevant electoral legislation, delineation of 2015 DC constituency areas, review and updating of guidelines on election-related activities, and other electoral arrangements such as reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for use as polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises for the appointment of polling and counting staff and organising training programmes for them, acquiring electoral materials and support services, and organising large-scale voter registration publicity in preparation for the 2015 DC ordinary election. It is anticipated that the increase in the number of seats in the 2015 DC election will not have significant financial implications for the above work and this factor has been taken into consideration when drawing up the relevant budget.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0137)

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 11):

- (1) In 2013-14, how much resources were allocated by the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) for the updating of the registers of electors, including manpower and expenditure involved? What were the specific work done?
- (2) In 2013-14, did the REO allocate resources for the investigation of vote-rigging cases and complaints against vote-rigging? If yes, what were the details? If no, what were the reasons?
- (3) In 2014-15, how much resources does the REO plan to allocate for the investigation of vote-rigging cases and complaints against vote-rigging? If any, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply:

To enhance the accuracy of the registered particulars of electors, especially the registered addresses of electors in the final register of electors, the REO has put in place various checking measures, including the cross-matching of the particulars of electors with a few government departments, as below:

- (a) follow-up inquiries on undelivered poll cards arising from elections;
- (b) cross-matching of data with the Housing Department, the Hong Kong Housing Society and the Home Affairs Department for verification of electors' registered addresses;
- (c) checks on multiple electors or multiple surnames of electors registered with the same residential address;

- (d) random sample checks on existing electors;
- (e) checks on addresses with incomplete information, commercial addresses or suspected non-residential addresses;
- (f) checks on addresses in buildings already demolished or to be demolished based on the information provided by the Buildings Department; and
- (g) sample checks on new voter registration (VR) applications.

In the 2013 and 2014 VR cycles, the REO conducted checking on the registered particulars of around 140 000 electors which made up about 4% of the number of electors on the register of electors in each cycle through the above measures.

2. In 2013-14, the related work (including work related to investigations and complaints) was carried out by a team comprising 86 civil servants and 46 non-civil service contract staff. The expenditure on staff remuneration and the related operational expenses were around \$39 million.

3. The REO plans to increase manpower and resources in 2014-15 to handle the large number of applications for VR and the updating of particulars expected to be received before the District Council election in 2015, and to further enhance the checking work. The work related to VR and checking will be carried out by a team comprising 92 civil servants (including 6 newly added time-limited civil service posts) and around 200 non-civil service contract staff. The expenditure on staff remuneration and the related operational expenses are estimated to be around \$69 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2034)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 47):

(1) Would the Government please inform the Committee of the number of newly registered electors in the past five years by the 18 districts?

(2) Would the Government please inform the Committee of the number of electors with particulars updated in the past five years by the 18 districts?

Asked by: Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply:

According to the information on the Final Register of the past 5 years, the number of newly registered electors of each District Council (DC) constituency is set out below:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Central & Western	1 589	1 842	5 546	4 814	1 487
Wan Chai	874	989	2 861	2 507	905
Eastern	4 662	5 684	14 906	10 941	3 941
Southern	1 972	2 260	6 733	4 778	1 775
Yau Tsim Mong	2 229	2 948	8 083	5 823	2 263
Sham Shui Po	2 865	4 004	11 204	7 610	3 028
Kowloon City	2 719	3 767	10 027	7 133	2 786
Wong Tai Sin	4 187	5 313	12 510	8 698	3 609
Kwun Tong	6 195	8 073	20 398	12 889	5 584

Tsuen Wan	2 166	3 070	8 416	7 151	2 310
Tuen Mun	4 929	6 908	13 935	10 695	3 791
Yuen Long	6 719	9 789	18 564	14 118	5 562
Kwai Tsing	4 276	6 118	15 427	11 559	3 735
Islands	1 229	1 643	4 750	3 552	1 139
North	3 528	5 048	11 338	7 898	2 865
Tai Po	3 328	4 540	10 101	5 899	2 345
Sai Kung	4 079	5 304	12 303	8 622	3 849
Sha Tin	6 021	8 579	16 677	13 398	5 647
Total	63 567	85 879	203 779	148 085	56 621

2. The number of electors with updating of registered particulars under each DC constituency in the past five years is set out below:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Central & Western	2 995	2 791	8 958	10 658	4 087
Wan Chai	1 740	1 612	4 945	6 070	2 221
Eastern	9 678	7 953	26 900	27 871	9 912
Southern	3 543	3 225	9 997	10 978	3 875
Yau Tsim Mong	3 344	2 921	11 251	11 936	4 291
Sham Shui Po	8 362	4 520	15 935	14 737	8 936
Kowloon City	4 714	4 383	15 472	17 352	5 862
Wong Tai Sin	5 485	4 967	18 368	15 456	6 519
Kwun Tong	12 134	17 024	28 599	24 926	10 911
Tsuen Wan	4 014	3 699	12 809	15 105	4 975
Tuen Mun	7 163	6 613	19 527	20 687	7 878
Yuen Long	9 787	9 102	24 161	25 973	10 784
Kwai Tsing	7 770	5 422	17 670	18 324	6 065
Islands	1 572	1 648	7 071	5 623	2 052
North	6 332	4 391	14 224	12 924	4 704
Tai Po	3 501	3 472	15 288	12 510	4 476
Sai Kung	5 725	5 802	19 852	19 950	7 694
Sha Tin	10 113	9 273	22 716	28 964	10 904
Total	107 972	98 818	293 743	300 044	116 146

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0296)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 2):

The Registration and Electoral Office expects to create 75 posts in 2014-15, resulting in an establishment of 214 posts, which is even larger than that for the dual elections held in the year 2012. What are the reasons? What is the additional expenditure involved for each of these posts?

Asked by: Hon. NG Leung-sing

Reply:

After reviewing the experience of the previous election cycles, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) anticipates that more manpower is required to enhance the present electoral arrangements to cope with the planning and preparatory work for the coming election cycle.

2. The REO will create 75 posts in 2014-15, mainly responsible for the preparation for the 2015 District Council (DC) ordinary election, including amendments to relevant electoral legislation, delineation of 2015 DC constituency areas, review and updating of guidelines on election-related activities, and other electoral arrangements such as reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for use as polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises for the appointment of polling and counting staff and organising training programmes for them, acquiring electoral materials and support services, and organising large-scale voter registration publicity in preparation for the 2015 DC ordinary election.

3. These 75 posts include 1 Principal Executive Officer, 4 Chief Executive Officer, 13 Senior Executive Officer, 29 Executive Officer I, 4 Executive Officer II, 5 Clerical Officer, 9 Assistant Clerical Officer, 2 Clerical Assistant, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Senior Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Officer, 2 Assistant Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Supervisor II, 1 Systems Manager and 1 Analyst/Programmer I. The estimated salary expenditure for these posts is around \$35 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0341)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 12):

The Registration and Electoral Office stated that the number of non-directorate posts will be increased by 74 to 212 as at 31 March 2015. Please inform this Committee of the nature of work, ranks and salaries of these new posts.

Asked by: Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will create 74 non-directorate posts in 2014-15, mainly responsible for the preparation for the 2015 District Council (DC) ordinary election, including amendments to relevant electoral legislation, delineation of 2015 DC constituency areas, review and updating of guidelines on election-related activities, and other electoral arrangements such as reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for use as polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises for the appointment of polling and counting staff and organising training programmes for them, acquiring electoral materials and support services, and organising large-scale voter registration publicity in preparation for the 2015 DC ordinary election.

2. These 74 non-directorate posts include 4 Chief Executive Officer, 13 Senior Executive Officer, 29 Executive Officer I, 4 Executive Officer II, 5 Clerical Officer, 9 Assistant Clerical Officer, 2 Clerical Assistant, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Senior Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Officer, 2 Assistant Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Supervisor II, 1 Systems Manager and 1 Analyst/Programmer I. The estimated salary expenditure for these posts is around \$34 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 1989)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 21):

The Registration and Electoral Office's provision for 2014-15 is \$185.9 million higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14. How much out of the increased amount is the expenditure for the District Council election in 2015? What is the estimated overall expenditure of the District Council election in 2015?

What are the specific work plans for the implementation of voter registration campaigns? What is the expenditure involved? What are the specific work plans and timetable for the review of the overall election arrangements? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

Provision for the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) for 2014-15 is \$185.9 million higher than 2013-14. This is mainly due to preparation for the 2015 District Council (DC) ordinary election, preparation for large-scale voter registration (VR) publicity in relation to the 2015 DC ordinary election and review of the overall electoral arrangements. Since the various practical arrangements for the 2015 DC ordinary election are subject to review and planning, we cannot provide information on the overall expenditure for such election at this stage.

2. Preparations for the 2015 DC ordinary election include amendments to relevant electoral legislation, delineation of 2015 DC constituency areas, review and updating of guidelines on election-related activities, and other electoral arrangements such as reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for use as polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises for the appointment of polling and counting staff and organising training programmes for them, acquiring electoral materials and support services, etc.

3. Regarding the 2014 VR campaign, the REO will, through different media, encourage eligible persons to register as electors if they have yet to do so and remind electors to fulfil their civic responsibility to update their registered particulars. Publicity measures include:

- (a) broadcasting of Announcements of Public Interest on television, radio and the internet appealing for new registrations; and reminding registered electors to notify the REO of any change of residential addresses and to provide or update their email addresses;
- (b) placing advertisements in newspapers, popular websites and mobile applications to encourage new registrations and timely updating of registered particulars by electors;
- (c) setting up registration counters at the Registration of Persons Offices of the Immigration Department to encourage and facilitate young people applying for or collecting adult identity cards at those Offices as well as other eligible persons to register as electors;
- (d) displaying posters in universities, tertiary institutions and secondary schools to appeal to students who have reached the age of 18 to register as electors;
- (e) issuing appeal letters to households which have moved into newly developed housing estates to remind them to update their addresses or register as electors; and
- (f) displaying posters at the advertising light boxes of bus stops over the territory and displaying posters and distributing VR forms at district offices, public housing estate management offices, government departments and social services institutions.

To encourage young people to come forward to register, the REO will continue to reach out and disseminate VR information to young people in the 2014 VR cycle through various media in addition to the traditional ones and look for other suitable channels, such as large scale events with participation of young people, to launch publicity campaign. In 2014-15, the REO will set up a team of 92 civil servants (including 6 newly-created time-limited civil service posts) and about 200 non-civil service contract staff to carry out all VR-related work, including processing the registration forms received, carrying out the above publicity activities, compiling and publishing the provisional and final registers, implementing checking measures and preparing the large scale VR publicity in relation to the 2015 DC ordinary election. The estimated expenditure on staff remuneration and related operational expenses is around \$69 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 2716)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 48):

Provision for the Registration and Electoral Office for 2014–15 is \$185.9 million (225.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013–14. This is mainly due to increased requirements for preparation for the 2015 District Council ordinary election. A total of 75 posts will be created for undertaking election-related duties. In this connection, will the Administration please inform the Commission:

1. of the specific expenditure involved in the provision;
2. of the specific ranks, terms of employment, salaries and the main duties and responsibilities of the newly created posts; and
3. of the arrangements for the 75 newly created posts after the completion of the District Council election.

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

Provision for the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) for 2014–15 is \$185.9 million higher than 2013–14. This is mainly due to preparation for the 2015 District Council (DC) ordinary election, including amendments to relevant electoral legislation, delineation of 2015 DC constituency areas, review and updating of guidelines on election-related activities, and other electoral arrangements such as reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for use as polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises for the appointment of polling and counting staff and organising training programmes for them, acquiring electoral materials and support services, and organising large-scale voter registration publicity in preparation for the 2015 DC ordinary election.

2. The REO will create 75 time-limited civil service posts to carry out the above duties. These 75 posts include 1 Principal Executive Officer, 4 Chief Executive Officer, 13 Senior Executive Officer, 29 Executive Officer I, 4 Executive Officer II, 5 Clerical Officer, 9 Assistant

Clerical Officer, 2 Clerical Assistant, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Senior Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Officer, 2 Assistant Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Supervisor II, 1 System Manager and 1 Analyst/Programmer I. The estimated salary expenditure for these posts is around \$35 million. The respective heads of grade will be responsible for the deployment of civil servants to fill the posts. The terms of employment and salaries of these civil servants will be handled by the respective heads of grade in accordance with the relevant mechanisms and regulations. The 75 newly created posts will be deleted after REO has completed its various tasks in the 2015-17 election cycle.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0058)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 11):

Under this Programme, provision for the current financial year is \$185.9 million higher than last year, a marked increase of 225.6%. According to the Administration, this is mainly due to increased requirements for making preparation for the 2015 District Council ordinary election. In this connection, would the Government advise on the following:

- a. What will be the estimated provision to be allocated to the preparations for the 2015 District Council ordinary election? Please provide details of the preparation work.
- b. The Administration pointed out that 75 posts will be created in 2014–15 for undertaking election-related duties. Please provide details of the newly created posts.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

Provision for the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) for 2014–15 is \$185.9 million higher than 2013–14. This is mainly due to preparation for the 2015 District Council (DC) ordinary election, including amendments to relevant electoral legislation, delineation of 2015 DC constituency areas, review and updating of guidelines on election-related activities, and other electoral arrangements such as reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for use as polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises for the appointment of polling and counting staff and organising training programmes for them, acquiring electoral materials and support services, and organising large-scale voter registration publicity in preparation for the 2015 DC ordinary election.

2. The REO will create 75 posts to carry out the above work. These 75 posts include 1 Principal Executive Officer, 4 Chief Executive Officer, 13 Senior Executive Officer, 29 Executive Officer I, 4 Executive Officer II, 5 Clerical Officer, 9 Assistant Clerical Officer, 2 Clerical Assistant, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Senior Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Officer, 2 Assistant Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Supervisor II, 1 Systems Manager and 1 Analyst/Programmer I.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 0059)

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 12):

Under the Matters Requiring Special Attention, it was mentioned that checks on electors in the current register will be conducted in respect of their registered particulars, including cross-matching exercise with other government departments. In this connection, would the Government advise on the following:

- a. In the year 2013-14, how many electors have their registered particulars checked? What is the percentage of the electors checked against the total number of electors in Hong Kong?
- b. What is the actual amount of provision allocated to the checking exercise in the current financial year?
- c. What will be the manpower involved in the checking exercise in the current financial year? Will the Administration allocate the manpower increased this year to conduct the checks?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

To enhance the accuracy of the registered particulars of electors, especially the registered addresses of electors in the final register of electors, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has put in place various checking measures, including the cross-matching of the particulars of electors with a few government departments, as below:

- (a) follow-up inquiries on undelivered poll cards arising from elections;
- (b) cross-matching of data with the Housing Department, the Hong Kong Housing Society and the Home Affairs Department for verification of electors' registered addresses;

- (c) checks on multiple electors or multiple surnames of electors registered with the same residential address;
- (d) random sample checks on existing electors;
- (e) checks on addresses with incomplete information, commercial addresses or suspected non-residential addresses;
- (f) checks on addresses in buildings already demolished or to be demolished based on the information provided by the Buildings Department; and
- (g) sample checks on new voter registration (VR) applications.

In the 2013 and 2014 VR cycles, the REO conducted checking on the registered particulars of around 140 000 electors which made up about 4% of the number of electors in the register of electors in each cycle through the above measures.

2. The REO plans to increase manpower and resources in 2014-15 to handle the large number of applications for VR and the updating of particulars expected to be received before the District Council election in 2015, and to further enhance the checking work. The work related to VR and checking will be carried out by a team comprising 92 civil servants (including 6 newly added time-limited civil service posts) and around 200 non-civil service contract staff. The expenditure on staff remuneration and the related operational expenses are estimated to be around \$69 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 3724)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 225):

Regarding the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016, would the Government advise this Committee of the breakdown on expenditure items and respective amount involved for such work in 2013-14; the expenditure on producing and broadcasting advertisements for publicity on electronic media; the work plan, timetable, manpower allocated and estimated expenditure of the Bureau to carry out the above consultation in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

On 4 December 2013, the HKSAR Government formally commenced the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 2016 to prepare for the "Five-step Process" of constitutional development. The 5-month consultation will end on 3 May 2014. After the consultation period, we will summarise and consolidate the views received. The CE will submit a report to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC) in accordance with the Interpretation made by the NPCSC in 2004 and the NPCSC will determine whether there is a need to amend the methods for selecting the CE and for forming the LegCo. After the NPCSC has made the decision, we expect the second stage public consultation can be launched in the second half of 2014, and the package of proposals to amend the annexes to the Basic Law can be put forward to the LegCo after the completion of the consultation.

2. In respect of the abovementioned public consultation exercise, the revised estimate for 2013-14 is about \$7.2 million (excluding staff cost) and the breakdown of the estimate is at Table 1.

Table 1

	million (\$)
Printing	0.9
Publicity and consultation sessions	6.1
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.2
Total	7.2

The \$6.1 million used for publicity and consultation sessions as mentioned above already includes approximately \$1.43 million used for the production and broadcast of the television and radio Announcements in Public Interest.

3. In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) for the above mentioned public consultation and the breakdown of the estimate is at Table 2. Besides, we have created 7 time-limited posts, including 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post for about 2 months and 6 posts (1 Administrative Officer, 1 Senior Executive Officer, 1 Executive Officer II and 3 Assistant Clerical Officers) for 1 year to handle the relevant work.

Table 2

	million (\$)
Printing	3.1
Publicity and consultation sessions	8.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.5
Total	12.1

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 3725)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
(4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 227):

What is the number of visits or study tours to the Mainland undertaken by Bureau staff in 2013-14? Please provide information on the date, destination, delegation members and itinerary of each visit or study tour and provide a breakdown of the expenditure. What are the Bureau's visit or study tour programme planned for 2014-15 and the estimated expenditure involved? Please provide information on the dates, destinations, delegation members, scheduled itineraries of and estimated expenditures for the planned visits or study tours.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

54 official duty visits to the Mainland, Macao and Taiwan were undertaken by officers of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) in 2013-14. The relevant information is provided below –

Place of visit/Objective	Officers joining the duty visit	Hotel accommodation expenditure (\$) (A)	Flight ticket expenditure (\$) (B)	Total expenditure (\$) ^{Note} (A)+(B)
• promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland in places	1-8 officers of different ranks per duty visit	62,070	283,160	345,230

<p>including Beijing, Shanghai, Yunnan, Guizhou, Liaoning, Guangdong, Fujian, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan • attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings in Zhejiang 	<p>and led by a senior officer or directorate officer.</p>			
---	--	--	--	--

Note:

- (1) The above expenditure excludes the following –
 - (a) overseas subsistence allowance provided to officers concerned, expenses on communication, etc.; and
 - (b) the expenditure which was sponsored by the hosting government for certain duty visits.
 - (2) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.
 - (3) Proper class of air passages was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and details.
2. In 2014-15, officers of CMAB will undertake official duty visits outside Hong Kong on the basis of operational needs including promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland, enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan, and participating in concerned meetings. We do not have any specific plan for the time being.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 3726)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security, Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland
Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 230):

Regarding the services of each Mainland Office, would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

- a) the number of requests for assistance received by the Mainland Offices from Hong Kong residents running into business disputes, legal proceedings, casualties, detention by law enforcement authorities in the Mainland in the past 3 years with breakdown by individual Offices and nature of cases; and
- b) whether the Government has considered allocating additional resources and manpower to the Mainland Offices to help broaden their scope of services so as to provide more specific services to Hong Kong residents in distress. If yes, what are the details, including the new scope of services, staff establishment and estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The number of requests for assistance received by each Mainland Office in the past 3 years, with breakdown by nature of cases, is set out in the attached table.

2. Currently, Immigration Divisions are set up under the Beijing Office (BJO) and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETO) in Guangdong and Chengdu to provide assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress in all provinces/regions in the Mainland. Among these Immigration Divisions, the one in Chengdu ETO commenced operation on 21 October 2013. The Administration will review the services concerned from time to time, with a view to rendering appropriate assistance to Hong Kong residents in distress.

		Requests for assistance relating to immigration and personal safety matters	Other assistance cases
2011	BJO	232	78
	Guangdong ETO	269	78
	Shanghai ETO	Covered by BJO	29
	Chengdu ETO		11
2012	BJO	174	95
	Guangdong ETO	188	77
	Shanghai ETO	Covered by BJO	20
	Chengdu ETO		15
2013	BJO	156	20
	Guangdong ETO	184	73
	Shanghai ETO	Covered by BJO	32
	Chengdu ETO	13	18

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 3727)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 231):

Article 39 of the Basic Law provides that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) applies to Hong Kong. Will the Bureau allocate resources in 2014-15 for organising special projects to promote the concept of ICCPR and the Bill of Rights Ordinance? If yes, what are the work plan and estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Government's work on promoting human rights spans across a number of policy bureaux, including the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB), the Education Bureau (EDB) and the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), etc.

2. The CMAB has been organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law, which include, in general, promoting human rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) as applied to Hong Kong under the Basic Law. The CMAB also works closely with other government bureaux and departments for the promotion of human rights. For example, the EDB has been facilitating the promotion of human rights education in schools through measures such as embedding related learning elements in the curriculum, organising teacher professional development programmes, and developing learning and teaching resources, while the HAB has been promoting civic education, (including human rights) outside schools, in collaboration with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education, through means such as providing sponsorship to community organisations to organise civic education activities and producing publicity programmes and materials.

3. When preparing the report in the light of the ICCPR, the CMAB consults different sectors of the community on the report outline. Following submission of the report to the United Nations, hard copies of the report are distributed to members of the public, Councillors, relevant non-government organisations and stakeholders, and the report is uploaded onto the CMAB's website for public inspection. The Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs is also consulted on the relevant report as appropriate. A separate breakdown of the expenditure for the work involved is not available.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB094

(Question Serial No. 3728)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 226):

In 2013-14, did staff of the Bureau conduct meetings with offices of the Central People's Government (CPG) in Hong Kong or visit the Mainland to have any form of meetings with the relevant ministries of the CPG in relation to the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016? If yes, what were the details and expenses incurred? Will the Bureau allocate resources in 2014-15 to organise the above meetings? If yes, what will be the work plan and estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

According to the Basic Law and the relevant Decisions of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC), amendments to the method for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) as prescribed in Annex I to the Basic Law and amendments to the method for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo) as prescribed in Annex II to the Basic Law must be approved by the NPCSC or submitted to the NPCSC for the record. Therefore, the discussion on constitutional development is an issue which involves the Central People's Government (CPG) and the HKSAR Government. For the ongoing public consultation on the methods for selecting the CE in 2017 and for forming the LegCo in 2016, the HKSAR Government has been maintaining communication with the relevant office of the CPG, and has helped and facilitated the LegCo expressing its opinion to the CPG's office in Hong Kong. In 2013-14, the communication between the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and the relevant office of the CPG in relation to the methods for selecting the CE in 2017 and for forming the LegCo in 2016 did not involve any additional cost, and we do not have any specific estimate for such in 2014-15.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB095

(Question Serial No. 3729)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 232):

The ex-Chairperson of the Equal Opportunities Commission proposed to review the existing anti-discrimination laws and study the feasibility of combining them. In 2014-15, will the Bureau allocate resources for reviewing the anti-discrimination laws and conducting related public consultations? If so, what are the work plans, timetables and estimated expenditure for the reviews and consultations? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) has advised that it is reviewing the anti-discrimination ordinances and expects to put forward proposals to the Government in the fourth quarter of 2014 or in the first quarter of 2015. Upon receiving the EOC's proposals, the Administration will consider how to follow up on the proposals.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB096

(Question Serial No. 3730)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 228):

In 2013-14, has the Bureau deployed resources to receive members of delegations or officials of the Central People's Government or provincial, municipal and local governments visiting Hong Kong? If yes, what are the dates of such activities, details of members of delegations or officials received, nature of activities organised and breakdown on expenditures? What are the work plans and estimated expenditure of the Bureau for this area in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Officials of the central, provincial and municipal governments in the Mainland regularly come to Hong Kong for visits, meetings, investment promotion efforts, studies and exchanges, etc. The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau maintains necessary working relationships with the central and provincial/municipal authorities in the Mainland, including their delegations visiting Hong Kong, to promote closer co-operation with the Mainland and to ensure mutual understanding and effective exchanges with them. We do not keep a separate account to capture related expenditure.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 3731)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 229):

Please provide the estimated provisions for the salary and allowances of the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, the Under Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs and the Political Assistant to the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs in 2014-15 with a breakdown by the 3 posts.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provisions for salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau for 2014-15 are \$3.38 million, \$2.20 million and \$1.18 million respectively.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 3732)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 233):

Recently, members of the public have time and again raised the issues of age discrimination, discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation and discrimination against new immigrants or Mainlanders in Hong Kong. In 2014-15, will the Bureau conduct any studies on legislating for anti-discrimination or implement other targeted measures for the 3 issues of discrimination above? If so, what are the specific work plans and estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons? Can the Bureau list out the priorities for dealing with the above issues and the justifications for such arrangements?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Hong Kong has always been a multi-cultural city and encourages a harmonious community with heterogeneous diversity. The Government is committed to promoting the core values such as mutual respect for people from different backgrounds in the community and equality for all through public education efforts, promoting harmony among different groups of people in the community. At the same time, the Equal Opportunities Commission also promotes inclusion and equal opportunities and pays attention to discrimination that may occur in other areas (e.g. age discrimination and discrimination against new immigrants or Mainlanders, etc.) in society, and appeals to different sectors of the community to adopt an attitude of equal opportunities towards different people through various channels.

2. In promoting equal opportunities for sexual minorities, the Administration will continue its work through education and promotion in 2014-15, including organising various publicity and promotion programmes, sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation to public and private sector

organisations, etc. The estimated provision (including the staff cost of the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit) is \$3.5 million. In addition, the Administration has earlier commissioned a consultant to study whether sexual minorities are discriminated against in Hong Kong and, if so, the discrimination they experienced, including the domains and forms of discrimination, and how they responded to it. The expenditure of the study, which is still underway, is about \$0.45 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 3733)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 234):

In 2013-14, what were the attendance rates of the members of the Equal Opportunities Commission and its Committees at meetings? Please list them by the individual members of each Committee.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The attendance record of members of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) and its Committees at meetings from 1 April 2013 to 28 February 2014 is as follows:

Member	Attendance record (No. of meetings attended/No. of meetings held during his/her term of office)				
	EOC	Administration and Finance Committee	Legal and Complaints Committee	Policy and Research Committee	Community Participation and Publicity Committee
Ms Susanna Chiu Lai-kuen	3/4	4/4	(non-member)	(non-member)	(non-member)
Ms Choi Hing-shi	4/4	(non-member)	5/5	(non-member)	4/4
Mr Holden Chow Ho-ding (Note ¹)	2/3	(non-member)	(non-member)	4/5	2/3

Member	Attendance record (No. of meetings attended/No. of meetings held during his/her term of office)				
	EOC	Administration and Finance Committee	Legal and Complaints Committee	Policy and Research Committee	Community Participation and Publicity Committee
Dr Maggie Koong May-kay	3/4	3/3	(non-member)	1/1	3/4
Dr Trisha Leahy (Note ¹)	3/3	(non-member)	3/4	2/5	(non-member)
Hon Joseph Lee Kok-long (Note ¹)	3/3	(non-member)	(non-member)	2/5	2/3
Mr Tim Lui Tim-leung	4/4	3/4	(non-member)	(non-member)	4/4
Mr Amirali Bakirali Nasir	4/4	2/3	5/5	1/1	(non-member)
Ms Winnie Ng Wing-mui	4/4	(non-member)	(non-member)	(non-member)	3/4
Mr Zaman Minhas Qamar	4/4	(non-member)	(non-member)	4/6	(non-member)
Ms Su-mei Thompson (Note ¹)	3/3	0/2	(non-member)	4/5	(non-member)
Dr Sandra Tsang Kit-man	4/4	(non-member)	3/5	4/5	(non-member)
Hon Paul Tse Wai-chun	3/4	(non-member)	1/5	2/5	1/1
Dr John Tse Wing-ling	4/4	4/4	(non-member)	6/6	2/4
Ms Garling Wong Ka-ling	4/4	(non-member)	(non-member)	5/6	4/4
Mr Nelson Yip Siu-hong	4/4	(non-member)	3/5	5/6	(non-member)
Ms Carmen Chan Ka-mun (Note ²)	1/1	1/1	(non-member)	1/1	(non-member)
Ms Maggie Chan Man-ki (Note ²)	0/1	(non-member)	1/1	(non-member)	(non-member)
Mr Lee Luen-fai (Note ²)	1/1	1/1	1/1	(non-member)	(non-member)
Dr Raees Begum Baig (Note ³)	N/A			N/A	2/4
Mr Wang Kai-fung (Note ³)					3/4
Mr Chow Wing-hong (Note ^{2,3})					1/1
Prof Tse Tsun-him (Note ³)					1/2

Member	Attendance record (No. of meetings attended/No. of meetings held during his/her term of office)				
	EOC	Administration and Finance Committee	Legal and Complaints Committee	Policy and Research Committee	Community Participation and Publicity Committee
Mr Karl Lau Chun-chuen (Note ³)	N/A	N/A	N/A	3/6	N/A
Ms Agnes Lau (Note ³)				6/6	
Mr Behzad Mirzaei (Note ³)				2/6	

(Note¹) Term of office started on 20 May 2013

(Note²) Term of office expired on 19 May 2013

(Note³) Only the Policy and Research Committee and the Community Participation and Publicity Committee of the EOC have co-opted members.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB100

(Question Serial No. 3734)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 235):

In 2013-14, will the Equal Opportunities Commission conduct studies on the enactment of anti-discrimination laws for discrimination issues, other than discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation, which are not yet regulated by such laws, and carry out publicity work to promote the message of anti-discrimination? If so, what are the specific work plans, timetable and estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The main functions of the Equal Opportunities Commission are to eliminate discrimination and promote equal opportunities as provided by the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance and the Race Discrimination Ordinance; it also pays attention to discrimination that may occur in other areas (e.g. age discrimination) and appeals to different sectors of the community to adopt an attitude of equal opportunities towards different people.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB101

(Question Serial No. 6258)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 242):

In 2014-15, will the Administration allocate resources to review the implementation of the Code on Access to Information, and to conduct a study on how the content of the Code and implementation of the Code can be improved. If yes, what are the related work plan, timetable and estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Ombudsman has recently initiated a direct investigation on the access to information regime in Hong Kong, including the implementation of the Code on Access to Information, and has put forward a number of recommendations to improve the implementation of the Code. Meanwhile, the Law Reform Commission (LRC) is conducting a study on the topic of access to information under which detailed reviews of the local situation and comprehensive comparative studies of the relevant laws in overseas jurisdictions are conducted, with a view to making appropriate recommendations on possible options for reform. We will carefully study the recommendations of the Ombudsman and consider taking follow-up actions as appropriate, and upon completion of LRC's study, consider in one go whether and how the existing access to information regime should be improved. The work involved will be absorbed within existing resources.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6320)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 587):

a) What are the salaries of the Secretary, Under Secretary, and Political Assistant of the Bureau in 2013-14?

b) How much has been spent on the Secretary's public, media and community functions in 2013-14? Please provide details and the amount spent on each function attended by the Secretary.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

a) The provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau for 2013-14 are \$3.38 million, \$2.20 million and \$1.18 million respectively.

b) The Director of Bureau will attend public, media and community functions on the basis of operational need. We do not keep a separate account to capture the related expenses.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5335)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development
Secretary for Security

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 104):

Will the Administration advise this Committee of the respective provision earmarked for the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office to meet the operational expenses, as well as the staff establishment and estimated provision for salaries of these offices in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

A breakdown of the provision earmarked for the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) under Programme (3) for 2014-15, and the estimated expenditure on personal emoluments for Hong Kong-based staff posted to the offices is provided below:

Office	Provision earmarked (\$ million)	Estimated expenditure on personal emoluments for Hong Kong-based staff (\$ million)
Beijing Office	70.7	18.3
Guangdong ETO	54.9	16.5

Shanghai ETO	34.8	8
Chengdu ETO	36.9	10.5
Wuhan ETO	30.3	6.8
HKETCO	24.0	8.3

2. The establishment of the Beijing Office for 2014-15 will comprise 3 directorate officers (i.e. 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade A, 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 and 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 16 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 3 Immigration Officers, 1 Chief Information Officer, 1 Information Officer, 1 Executive Officer I and 1 Senior Personal Secretary). The above figure has included the additional manpower for the liaison unit intended to be set up in the Northern Region of the Mainland this year.

3. The establishment of the Guangdong ETO for 2014-15 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 14 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 4 Principal Trade Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer, 2 Immigration Officers and 1 Principal Information Officer).

4. The establishment of the Shanghai ETO in 2014-15 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 8 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 4 Trade Officers and 1 Senior Information Officer). The above figure has included the additional manpower for the liaison unit intended to be set up in the Eastern Region of the Mainland next year.

5. The establishment of the Chengdu ETO in 2014-15 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 11 non-directorate officers (i.e. 2 Senior Administrative Officers, 4 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Principal Immigration Officer, 1 Chief Immigration Officer and 2 Immigration Officers).

6. The establishment of the Wuhan ETO in 2014-15 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and 6 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 3 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, and 1 Executive Officer I).

7. The establishment of the HKETCO in 2014-15 will comprise 1 directorate officer (Administrative Officer Staff Grade B) and 7 non-directorate officers (i.e. 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 1 Principal Trade Officer, 2 Trade Officers, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Executive Officer I and 1 Personal Secretary I).

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB104

(Question Serial No. 5336)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 105):

Will the Administration advise this Committee of the respective provision earmarked for the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office to meet the official entertainment expenses in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

The estimated entertainment expenditures of the Beijing Office (BJO), the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (HKETCO) are set out below:

Office	Estimated Expenditure for 2014-15 (\$ million)
BJO	0.4
Guangdong ETO	0.4
Chengdu ETO	0.4
Wuhan ETO	0.2
Shanghai ETO	0.1
HKETCO	0.1

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB105

(Question Serial No. 5357)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 114):

Please provide details of the government fleet under your purview:

	Number	Operational expenses for 2013	Estimated operational expenses for 2014-15
VIP Car			
Large Saloon Car (Grade A)			
Large Saloon Car (Grade B)			

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

There are currently two government vehicles in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau. The relevant information is provided below -

	Number	Operational expenses ^{note} for 2013-14 (as at 28.2.2014)	Estimated operational expenses ^{note} for 2014-15
VIP Car	-	-	-
Large Saloon Car (Grade A)	2	\$410,000	\$160,000
Large Saloon Car (Grade B)	-	-	-

Note: The operational expenses above include fuel cost and maintenance cost. The operational expenses for 2013-14 are relatively higher mainly because of relatively high maintenance costs.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 4226)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 119):

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child has asked Contracting States or territories to the Convention on the Rights of the Child to promote public awareness of the provisions of the Convention. In this regard, what are the Administration's related expenditures in the past 5 years? Has provision been earmarked for promotional work in 2014-15? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

The Government is committed to promoting public awareness of and respect for the rights of children as enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Convention). The related expenditures incurred in the past 5 years (excluding manpower resources) are listed in the table below –

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2009-10	1.943*
2010-11	1.489
2011-12	1.006
2012-13	1.838 [#]
2013-14 (revised estimate)	2.077 [^]

* Including special activities to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Convention.

[#] Including production of Announcements in the Public Interest on children's rights.

^ Including co-operating with the Radio Television Hong Kong to conduct a school outreach programme to promote children's rights and produce a related TV programme.

2. In 2014-15, the Government will continue to promote children's rights through, inter alia, the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme, the Children's Rights Forum, and continued efforts in publicity and public education. The estimated provision for these efforts, excluding manpower resources, is \$1.25 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB107

(Question Serial No. 4807)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 122):

Please provide a breakdown of the expenditure and estimated expenditure on programmes for promoting racial harmony and racial equality in the past 5 years and in the next financial year.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

Work on promoting racial harmony and racial equality is undertaken mainly by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB), the Home Affairs Department (HAD), and the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC).

2. Since 2011-12, support services for ethnic minorities to facilitate integration into the community have been transferred from the CMAB to the HAD. Since then, the HAD has implemented a number of measures to assist ethnic minorities to integrate into the community. In 2011-12, the enhanced support measures included implementing district-based integration programmes and an ambassador scheme. In 2012-13, an additional support service centre for ethnic minorities and 2 sub-centres were set up in Yau Tsim Mong, Sham Shui Po and Tung Chung respectively, and 2 additional radio programmes in ethnic minority languages (i.e. Hindi and Thai) were produced. In 2014-15, the enhanced support measures include setting up a new support service centre for ethnic minorities in Kwai Tsing; setting up youth units in all support service centres and sub-centres to provide dedicated programmes for ethnic minority youths; implementing a youth ambassador scheme to reach out to ethnic minority youths to understand their needs and difficulties and make referrals as necessary; and recruiting additional staff familiar with ethnic minority cultures and languages to implement relevant initiatives. The expenditure on the above support services to help ethnic minorities integrate into the community is \$24.26 million, \$28.40 million, \$22.70 million, \$31.70 million and \$34.90 million for

2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively. The estimated budget for 2014-15 is \$48.20 million.

3. The CMAB oversees the operation of the Race Discrimination Ordinance (RDO), and promotes racial equality by issuing in April 2010 the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality (the Guidelines). The Guidelines provide general guidance to relevant Government bureaux and departments and public authorities to promote racial equality and ensure equal access by ethnic minorities to public services in key areas concerned, and to take this into account in their formulation, implementation and review of relevant policies and measures. The Guidelines have been implemented smoothly so far. In 2013, the scope of application of the Guidelines has been extended to cover a total of 21 government bureaux and departments and public authorities. The CMAB will keep the implementation of the Guidelines under review and continue to listen to feedback from stakeholders. The Guidelines are implemented by the CMAB with its own resources and a separate breakdown of the related expenses is not available.

4. The EOC enforces the RDO and implements publicity and public education programmes to promote public awareness of the RDO and racial equality. Expenditure on the enforcement aspect is not available because this function is an integral part of the EOC's enforcement of the 4 anti-discrimination ordinances. For publicity and public education relating to racial equality, the expenditure (including manpower expenditure) is \$4.57 million, \$4.29 million, \$5.15 million, \$6.17 million and \$4.85 million for 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively. The estimated budget for 2014-15 is \$5.61 million. The major publicity and public education programmes relating to racial equality in 2014-15 will include a funding programme for non-profit making organisations to organise programmes to promote equal opportunities, weekly radio programmes, radio programmes in ethnic minority languages, drama performances in schools, youth mentorship programmes, outreaching programmes for ethnic minorities, roving exhibitions on the 4 anti-discrimination ordinances, and seminars and trainings for employers, employees, educational institutions, non-government organisations and community groups, etc.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5900)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 76):

The Government states that it will use Children's Forum as a platform for collecting and listening to the views of the children. Please provide information on:

1. the details of the Children's Forums organised, including the dates, themes, numbers of participants, venues as well as the Government departments and officials participated, since the establishment of the Forum;
2. the number of children that can be reached by the Forum;
3. whether the timing of the Forum is children-friendly, e.g., whether the Forum is hosted at the time when children have to attend school; and
4. the effectiveness of the Forum.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

Since the establishment of the Children's Rights Forum (the Forum) in 2005, 23 meetings have been convened. These meetings were held after school hours or during weekends in various districts to facilitate children from different areas to participate. There were about 30 to 50 participants at each meeting. The venues and discussion topics of past meetings are set out at the Annex. Generally speaking, the secretariat will, in respect of different topics, invite representatives from relevant bureaux and departments (usually pitched at senior level / directorate officer) to the meeting. The views of the participants on various topics such as implementation of the Sexual Conviction Record Check Scheme, implementation of "Joint Parental Responsibility Model" by legislative measure, and establishment of the Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics, have been reflected to relevant policy bureaux.

2. The Children's Rights Forum has been serving as a platform for exchange of views among children bodies, children and the Administration on matters that concern children. It encourages members of the public who take an interest in children's affair (including children) to propose topics for discussion and participate in the Forum's discussions. Starting from 2014, the Administration has endeavoured to enhance the co-operation between the Family Council and the Forum. For example at its meeting in January this year, the Forum has, at the request of the Family Council, discussed the rehabilitation services for pre-school children to facilitate the Family Council to gauge the views of the Forum before it discussed the same topic in February. The Forum will relay to the Family Council the views of children on various government initiatives expressed at the Forum, so as to facilitate the Family Council's work in assessing the impact of these policies on family. This will help to facilitate the collection of views concerning children's interests for reference by bureaux and departments.

Details of meetings of The Children's Rights Forum

Date	District	Discussion topic
2 December 2005	Wan Chai	- Establishment of a Children's Rights Forum
25 January 2006 (continued meeting)	Wan Chai	- Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme - Initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Response to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion)
29 March 2006	Wan Chai	- Initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Response to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion) - Proposed race discrimination legislation - Establishment of the Children's Rights Unit - Review of corporate governance of the Equal Opportunities Commission
15 December 2006	Wan Chai	- Initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Response to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion) - Progress report on 2006-07 Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme
9 March 2007	Wan Chai	- Initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Response to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion) - Progress report on 2006-07 Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme - Social welfare services for children
29 June 2007	Wan Chai	- Initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Response to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion)

Date	District	Discussion topic
21 September 2007	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Response to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion) - Suggestions on Children's Rights Forum by Kids' Dream, Children's Rights Association and Child Councilors of Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong
29 February 2008	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fostering a Caring School Ethos - the Students' Participation
4 July 2008	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internet safety for children - Response of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to the Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (continued discussion)
19 December 2008	Eastern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corporal punishment and violence to children - Convention on the Rights of the Child comic booklet - International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights comic booklet
16 April 2009	Eastern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children's health and health service – drug abuse among children - An outline of the topic to be covered in the second report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
25 September 2009	Eastern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children's health and health service – sex education - Review of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance
13 November 2009 (special meeting)	Yau Tsim Mong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Briefing and discussion on review of Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance
5 January 2010 (special meeting)	Yau Tsim Mong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - West Kowloon Cultural District Stage 1 Public Engagement Exercise
26 February 2010	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An outline of the topics in the third report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
2 July 2010	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An outline of the topics to be covered in the third report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in the light of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights - Prevention of Suicide

Date	District	Discussion topic
19 November 2010	Yau Tsim Mong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - West Kowloon Cultural District Stage 2 Public Engagement Exercise - Report on the Public Consultation on the Review of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance
17 August 2011	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moral and National Education Curriculum - School violence
21 October 2011	Yau Tsim Mong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - West Kowloon Cultural District Stage 3 Public Engagement Exercise - Establishing the Sexual Conviction Record Check Scheme
20 April 2012	Central and Western	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internet Learning Support Programme- “i Learn at home” - Consultation on the implementation of “Joint Parental Responsibility Model” by Legislative Measure
14 January 2013	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Air quality in Hong Kong - Children’s rights initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2013 Children’s Rights Education Funding Scheme - School outreach programme - Mobile application for promoting children’s rights
20 April 2013	Wan Chai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Primary one allocation and transport arrangement for cross-boundary students - Second report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child - Progress report on 2013 Children’s Rights Education Funding Scheme
30 July 2013	Central and Western	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of the Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics - Meeting arrangements of the Children’s Rights Forum
17 January 2014	Sham Shui Po	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The hearing and concluding observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child regarding the report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the Convention on the Rights of the Child - First report of the Child Fatality Review Panel - Rehabilitation services for pre-school children

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5902)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 78):

On 20 November 2013, I moved a motion on "Setting up a Commission on Children". The motion, which was subsequently amended by Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN requesting the Government to organise an annual "Summit on Children", was unanimously passed by all members present. Does the Government have any plans to convene an annual "Summit on Children"? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

Children's affairs straddle across different policy areas, e.g., education, healthcare and welfare, etc. The relevant policy bureaux handle matters under their respective purviews, such as formulating specific legislation for protecting the rights of children, and earmarking resources for implementing various policies. Relevant policy bureaux have been implementing extensive measures to enhance children's rights and well-being.

2. As regards the collection of opinions when formulating policies relating to children, it is the current practice for policy bureaux to seek views from the relevant advisory bodies. With effect from 1 April 2013, a mandatory assessment of family implications has been introduced to the process of formulating policies and amendment of existing policies. Bureaux and departments are required to use the 3 sets of family core values (i.e., "love and care", "respect and responsibilities" and "communication and harmony") as identified by the Family Council, as well as the impact on family's structure and functions as the basis for assessing the impact of their policies on families.

3. In case there are matters which involve a number of policy areas, policy bureaux will co-ordinate among themselves. We will also suitably co-ordinate and support through high level

set-up such as the Policy Committee. For example, the 2014 Policy Address has set out a range of measures to be implemented by different bureaux and departments to promote the well-being of children, notably those children who are disadvantaged, such as children with disabilities, ethnic minority children and children from low-income families. These measures have taken into consideration the views of, inter alia, the Legislative Council, the public and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child on children's affairs.

4. The Administration has no intention to convene a "Summit on Children".

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5903)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 79):

I initiated a motion debate in 2007 urging the Government to set up a commission on children and to formulate a comprehensive child policy. The motion was unanimously passed by all members present. In November 2013, I moved a motion on "Setting up a Commission on Children" and again the motion was unanimously passed by all members present. Will the Government set up a commission on children in response to the demands of the Legislative Council members? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

The Government's response to the motion was submitted to the Legislative Council Secretariat in January 2014. Please refer to the Appendix for details.

**Progress Report on the Motion
“Setting up a commission on children”**

Background

At the Legislative Council meeting on 20 November 2013, members passed the following motion moved by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG, as amended by Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN –

“That, in the process of formulating public policies, children’s perspectives are very often neglected; at its meeting of 6 June 2007, the Legislative Council passed a Members’ motion urging the Government to set up a commission on children to fulfill the obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, safeguard the well-being of children, and ensure that children’s perspectives were fully taken into account in the process of formulating policies; subsequently, the Government only established the Family Council in response to the demands, but the Family Council does not focus on children’s rights and well-being as its major areas of work; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to expeditiously set up a commission on children, so as to ensure that children’s well-being and perspectives are fully taken into account in the process of formulating policies, protect the legitimate rights under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and convene summits annually on children development policies and strategies.”

This paper reports the Administration’s latest position on the subject.

The Administration’s position

2. The Administration is firmly committed to promoting children’s rights. Our society generally recognises that family is the important and fundamental group unit of society which provides the natural environment for the growth and well-being of all its members including children. Against this backdrop, we have been adopting a family-based approach in promoting children’s well-being, by providing necessary and appropriate services to children as well as families.

3. Children’s affairs straddle across different policy areas, e.g., education, healthcare and welfare, etc. The relevant policy bureaux will handle matters under their respective purviews, such as formulating specific legislation for protecting the rights of children, and earmarking resources for implementing various policies. Relevant policy bureaux have been implementing extensive measures to enhance children’s rights and well-being.

4. In case there are matters which involve a number of policy areas, policy bureaux will co-ordinate among themselves. We will also suitably co-ordinate and support through high level set-up such as the Policy Committee. For example, the 2014 Policy Address has set out a range of measures to be implemented by different bureaux and departments (B/Ds) to promote the well-being of children, notably those children who are disadvantaged. Highlights of these measures are set out in **Annex**. These measures have taken into consideration the views of, inter

alia, the Legislative Council, the public and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child on children's affairs.

5. As regards the collection of opinions when formulating policies relating to children, it is the current practice for policy bureaux to seek views from the relevant advisory bodies. With effect from 1 April 2013, a mandatory assessment of family implications has been introduced to the process of formulating policies and amendment of existing policies. B/Ds are required to use the three sets of family core values (i.e., "love and care", "respect and responsibilities" and "communication and harmony") as identified by the Family Council (the Council), as well as the impact on family's structure and functions as the basis for assessing the impact of their policies on families.

6. The Council, established in 2007, has been striving to advocate cherishing the family as a main driver for social harmony. The Council has been serving as a cross-sector and cross-bureau platform for examining family-related issues and promoting a culture of loving families. The Council is chaired by a non-official academic, and consists of official members include representatives from Home Affairs Bureau, Labour and Welfare Bureau, Education Bureau and Central Policy Unit, and non-official members from a wide range of background (including social welfare, professional, academic and business sector) with experience in family (including children) related issues. B/Ds are encouraged to consult the Council on policies which may affect the family.

7. Besides, the Children's Rights Forum (the Forum), established in 2005, has been serving as a platform for exchange of views among children bodies, children and the Administration on matters that concern children. It encourages members of the public who take an interest in children's affair (including children) to propose topics for discussion and participate in the Forum's discussions. Forum participants' views on different topics (e.g., legislation on the implementation of the Joint Parental Responsibility Model and the Centre of Excellence in Paediatrics) have been reflected to relevant bureaux accordingly.

8. The Administration will endeavour to enhance the co-operation between the Council and the Forum. In particular, the Forum will relay to the Council the views of children on various government initiatives expressed at the Forum, so as to facilitate the Council's work in assessing the impact of these policies on family. Views reflecting children's interest will thus be more systematically collected in policy formulation by B/Ds and the Council. The Council will also invite policy bureaux to brief and consult the Council on children-related policies and initiatives being formulated.

9. We consider that the current arrangement for handling children affairs provides us the necessary flexibility in addressing the concern of various sectors on children matters, and is in line with our policy objective of strengthening the role of family. The Administration remains of the view that there is no imminent need to duplicate ongoing efforts and establish a commission on children.

Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau
Home Affairs Bureau
January 2014

Highlights of measures to promote the well-being of children

- a) Introduce a Low-income Work Family Allowance tied to employment and working hours to encourage self-reliance and break the vicious cycle of inter-generational poverty. If the family includes children or youth members, it is entitled to an additional full allowance. More than 200 000 low-income families, including 180 000 eligible children and young people, will benefit from the allowance.
- b) From the 2014/15 school year, the Education Bureau will provide the “Chinese Language Curriculum Second Language Learning Framework” with supporting learning and teaching materials, and increase funding support to schools to implement the new framework. The Education Bureau will also provide an Applied Learning (Chinese Language) subject to be pegged at the Qualifications Framework at senior secondary level and encourage parents of Non-Chinese speaking students to let their children start learning Chinese at the pre-primary stage through district-based projects/programmes.
- c) Enhance support for students receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) by increasing grants for school-related expenses for primary and secondary students of CSSA families through regularisation of a Community Care Fund programme from the 2014/15 school year.
- d) Provide additional teacher assistants and progressively reduce the class size for schools with children with disabilities, and increase the staff of the boarding section of special schools and provide additional grant for these schools.
- e) Provide additional places for rehabilitation services, including for pre-school rehabilitation.
- f) Extend the Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme on a concessionary fare of \$2 to eligible children with disabilities under the age of 12.
- g) Increase the voucher value of the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme by \$2,500 for the 2014/15 and 2015/16 school years and lift the fee remission ceiling to help needy families.
- h) Regularise three CCF learning support programmes from the 2014/15 school year to ensure that disadvantaged students have equal learning opportunities to benefit about 270 000 students, namely, (i) providing free lunch at schools for primary students receiving a full grant under the student financial assistance scheme; (ii) increasing the flat-rate grant by about 100% for each primary and secondary student eligible under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme; and (iii) establishing a tuition fee reimbursement mechanism for students in need pursuing eligible programmes below sub-degree level and providing them with a flat-rate academic expenses grant.
- i) Earmark \$300 million in the next financial year to ensure the sustainability of the Child Development Fund and help more students from needy families.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB111

(Question Serial No. 5904)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 80):

It is the international trend to set up a dedicated institution to deal with matters relating to children. In order to assist the governments to formulate a comprehensive policy on children, over 70 countries and 200 regions have set up children's commissions or have appointed children's commissioners to collect views on children-related matters, to address the needs and to safeguard the well-being of children. A dedicated institution will not only facilitate the Administration to consolidate the work of the various parties so that co-ordinated and focused efforts can be made to address children-related issues, but also ensure that a more holistic approach can be adopted in policy formulation. Moreover, effective consultation can help reduce political wrangles and facilitate the smooth implementation of policies. Will the Administration set up a commission on children in the light of the international experience? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

Children's affairs straddle across different policy areas, e.g., education, healthcare and welfare, etc. The relevant policy bureaux handle matters under their respective purviews, such as formulating specific legislation for protecting the rights of children, and earmarking resources for implementing various policies. Relevant policy bureaux have been implementing extensive measures to enhance children's rights and well-being.

2. As regards the collection of opinions when formulating policies relating to children, it is the current practice for policy bureaux to seek views from the relevant advisory bodies. With effect from 1 April 2013, a mandatory assessment of family implications has been introduced to the process of formulating policies and amendment of existing policies. Bureaux and departments are required to use the 3 sets of family core values (i.e., "love and care", "respect

and responsibilities” and “communication and harmony”) as identified by the Family Council, as well as the impact on family’s structure and functions as the basis for assessing the impact of their policies on families.

3. In case there are matters which involve a number of policy areas, policy bureaux will co-ordinate among themselves. We will also suitably co-ordinate and support through high level set-up such as the Policy Committee. For example, the 2014 Policy Address has set out a range of measures to be implemented by different bureaux and departments to promote the well-being of children, notably those children who are disadvantaged, such as children with disabilities, ethnic minority children and children from low-income families. These measures have taken into consideration the views of, inter alia, the Legislative Council, the public and the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child on children’s affairs.

4. The Administration has no intention to set up a separate commission on children.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB112

(Question Serial No. 5905)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 81):

In its Concluding Observations issued in October 2013, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child states that “(it) further recommends that Hong Kong SAR expedite the establishment of a Children’s Commission or another independent human rights institution with a clear mandate to monitor children’s rights and provide it with adequate financial, human and technical resources.” Does the Government have any plans to set up a commission on children as recommended by the Committee? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

Children’s affairs straddle across different policy areas, e.g., education, healthcare and welfare, etc. The relevant policy bureaux handle matters under their respective purviews, such as formulating specific legislation for protecting the rights of children, and earmarking resources for implementing various policies. Relevant policy bureaux have been implementing extensive measures to enhance children’s rights and well-being. In case there are matters which involve a number of policy areas, policy bureaux will co-ordinate among themselves. We will also suitably co-ordinate and support through high level set-up such as the Policy Committee.

2. As regards the collection of opinions when formulating policies relating to children, it is the current practice for policy bureaux to seek views from the relevant advisory bodies. With effect from 1 April 2013, a mandatory assessment of family implications has been introduced to the process of formulating policies and amendment of existing policies. Bureaux and departments are required to use the 3 sets of family core values (i.e., “love and care”, “respect and responsibilities” and “communication and harmony”) as identified by the Family Council (the Council), as well as the impact on family’s structure and functions as the basis for assessing the impact of their policies on families.

3. The Council, established in 2007, has been striving to advocate cherishing the family as a main driver for social harmony. The Council has been serving as a cross-sector and cross-bureau platform for examining family-related issues and promoting a culture of loving families. The Council is chaired by a non-official academic, and consists of official members include representatives from Home Affairs Bureau, Labour and Welfare Bureau, Education Bureau and Central Policy Unit, and non-official members from a wide range of background (including social welfare, professional, academic and business sector) with experience in family (including children) related issues. Bureaux and departments are encouraged to consult the Council on policies which may affect the family.
4. Besides, the Children's Rights Forum (the Forum), established in 2005, has been serving as a platform for exchange of views among children bodies, children and the Administration on matters that concern children. It encourages members of the public who take an interest in children's affair (including children) to propose topics for discussion and participate in the Forum's discussions. Forum participants' views on different topics (e.g. the first report released by the Child Fatality Review Panel, pre-school rehabilitation service for children, etc.) have been reflected to the Council and relevant bureaux accordingly.
5. The Administration will endeavour to enhance the co-operation between the Council and the Forum. In particular, the Forum will relay to the Council the views of children on various government initiatives expressed at the Forum, so as to facilitate the Council's work in assessing the impact of these policies on family. Views reflecting children's interest will thus be more systematically collected in policy formulation by bureaux and departments and the Council.
6. The Administration remains of the view that there is no need to duplicate ongoing efforts and set up a commission on children.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5914)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 135):

Please tabulate information on the allocation of provision, the additional manpower and the relevant posts created for examining the feasibility of establishing an Equal Opportunities Tribunal. What are the specific work plan and the expenditure involved? If there is no such plan, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

With regard to the proposal to establish an Equal Opportunities Tribunal, the Judiciary considers that the proactive case management measures introduced after the Civil Justice Reform in April 2009 should have enabled the District Courts to handle equal opportunities (EO) claims in a more efficient manner. Besides, the Judiciary's proposed legislative amendments to streamline the adjudication of EO claims in the District Courts and measures to enhance case management were supported by the Legislative Council Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services on 25 February this year. Upon completion of the legislative amendments, a more accessible platform for parties concerned to pursue EO claims in court would be in place; this would also help expedite the adjudication of EO claims.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5915)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 136):

Please tabulate information on the allocation of provision, the additional manpower and the relevant posts created for the promotion of the concept of equal pay for work of equal value in the context of gender equality. What is the specific plan, including the publicity programme and the expenditure involved? If there is no plan, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

Since its establishment, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) has been working steadily to advance the Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value (EPEV) principles. These efforts include incorporating EPEV into the Code of Practice on Employment issued under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance (SDO) in 1996; conducting a Feasibility Study on EPEV and releasing a report on Consultancy Study on EPEV in the Public Sector afterwards; and producing a Guide to Employers on Equal Pay between Men and Women under the SDO to help employers draw up pay practices that are free of sex bias and to realise the concept of equal pay in the workplace. In addition, the EOC also arranges talks and training programmes for employers, women groups, stakeholders and members of the public to, inter alia, introduce to them EPEV principles and practices. Over the past 3 years, there is an annual average of 41 000 participants taking part in these talks and training programmes.

2. The EOC advised that it is reviewing the Code of Practice on Employment and the initial draft report is expected to be completed by the end of 2014. While conducting the review, the EOC will also revise and revamp the chapter on ways to promote EPEV principles.

3. The work on promoting the concept of EPEV includes conducting research studies, preparing consultancy reports, organising conferences, preparing and printing EPEV guides, etc. These are integral parts of the EOC's efforts in promoting the concept of equal opportunities for all and a separate breakdown on the expenditure involved is therefore not available.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5950)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 318):

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau issued the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality in 2010 to “provide guidance to the relevant bureaux, departments and other public authorities on promoting racial equality and ensuring equal access to public services by ethnic minorities in the key areas concerned”. However, the Guidelines have no statutory effect and no mechanism for regular review, hence the measures set out by most government departments or public organisations are merely individual piecemeal measures put together. The Guidelines have been introduced for years but the actual effectiveness of the measures has not been publicly reviewed. The reality is that the Guidelines have failed to help ethnic minority residents gain equal access to public services. Will the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau specifically request participating departments or organisations to conduct public opinion surveys on the level of satisfaction and / or recommendations for improvement of the ethnic minority residents who speak neither Chinese nor English and are using the public services of the departments or organisations concerned? If so, what are the expenditure and details? If not, what mechanism does the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau have in place to find out about the use of public services by ethnic minorities?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) issued in April 2010 the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality (the Guidelines) to provide general guidance to relevant Government bureaux and departments and public authorities to promote racial equality and ensure equal access by ethnic minorities to public services in key areas concerned, and to take this into account in their formulation, implementation and review of relevant policies and measures.

2. The Guidelines cover the key public services which are particularly relevant to meeting the special needs of ethnic minorities and facilitating their integration into the community, namely, medical, education, vocational training, employment and major community services. According to the Guidelines, the departments should draw up checklists of measures that would assist in promoting racial equality and equal access to key public services to enhance the transparency of their work. The checklists contain contact information of the departments and have been uploaded onto the CMAB website. Where necessary, the departments will issue updates on the information of the checklists.

3. The Guidelines have been implemented smoothly so far. In 2013, the scope of application of the Guidelines has been extended to cover a total of 21 Government bureaux and departments and public authorities.

4. Government departments should ensure that ethnic minorities' access to public service is not affected by language barriers. To this end, the departments may, in accordance with the provisions of the Stores and Procurement Regulations, engage service providers to provide translation and interpretation services, or recruit staff who are proficient in ethnic minority languages to provide assistance to ethnic minorities in accessing public services. For example, the Housing Department (HD) has been covered by the Guidelines since September 2013. To facilitate ethnic minorities' access to various public housing services, HD has put in place a number of measures which include uploading leaflets in various ethnic minority languages onto the Housing Authority (HA) / HD website to set out in detail the general information concerning application for public housing; employing 2 Pakistani Hall Attendants to offer reception and simple interpretation service in the HA Customer Service Centre to the ethnic minorities public housing applicants and providing translation service through the Centre for Harmony and Enhancement of Ethnic Minority Residents at the request of the ethnic minority public housing applicants; and promoting racial harmony through estate newsletter, promotional video, poster and partnering community functions jointly organised by the Estate Management Advisory Committee and non-governmental organisations.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5951)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 319):

Does the Government know the respective expenditures of the Housing Department, the Student Financial Assistance Agency, the Department of Health, the Labour Department, the Social Welfare Department, the Home Affairs Department, the Hospital Authority, the Vocational Training Council, the Employees Retraining Board and the Construction Industry Council, etc. in implementing the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality last year?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

Implementing the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality is an integral part of the work of government departments. Relevant departments will deploy resources in accordance with the policies concerned and the measures to be taken forward to ensure that all the measures can be implemented smoothly; a breakdown of the expenditures thus incurred is not available.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5952)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 320):

In promoting current measures on social welfare and poverty alleviation, the Government has failed to get to the bottom of enhancing its sensitivity when serving the ethnic minorities. The majority of the frontline staff of government departments does not take the initiative to apply for the use of the existing Telephone Interpretation Service (TELIS) or On-site Interpretation Service (OSIS) provided by the Centre for Harmony and Enhancement of Ethnic Minority Residents (CHEER) to the ethnic minorities. For example, in 2012-13, the Housing Department and Labour Department only made 3 and 11 applications for OSIS respectively throughout the year. At present, only government departments can apply for the use of OSIS of CHEER. Will the Government consider allowing ethnic minority users of public services to apply for the use of OSIS at their own will? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

In general, government departments will, through various means, ensure that ethnic minorities' access to public services is not affected by language barriers. These measures include publishing pamphlets, leaflets and promotional materials in ethnic minority languages and uploading the electronic version of such publications on relevant webpages.

2. With regard to interpretation services, departments will also, based on their actual needs and in accordance with established procurement procedures, provide interpretation services as required through means such as engaging service providers to provide interpretation service, staff proficient in ethnic minority languages, and part-time court interpreters, etc. Measures put in place by the Housing Department (HD) and the Labour Department (LD) include: HD employs 2 Pakistani Hall Attendants to offer reception and simple interpretation service in the Housing Authority Customer Service Centre to ethnic minority public housing applicants; LD

engages part-time court interpreters as necessary to provide on-site interpretation service when adjudicating minor employment claims related to ethnic minorities. In addition, these two departments also use the translation and interpretation service offered by the Centre for Harmony and Enhancement of Ethnic Minority Residents, which is only one of the interpretation services used by the two departments.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5953)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 321):

To facilitate ethnic minority residents not proficient in Chinese or English languages, does the Government have any plan to provide application forms in English supplemented by ethnic minority languages commonly used in Hong Kong for matters related to poverty alleviation (e.g. application for public housing, the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy, Student Financial Assistance Agency's subsidies for primary and secondary school students, etc.)? If yes, what are the details and expenditures involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

To ensure that ethnic minorities' access to public services is not affected by language barriers, government departments may, in accordance with the provisions of the Stores and Procurement Regulations, engage service providers to provide translation or interpretation services, or recruit staff who are proficient in ethnic minority languages to provide assistance to ethnic minorities in accessing public services.

2. In respect of the application forms related to poverty alleviation as stated in the question (i.e. application for public housing, the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy, Student Financial Assistance Agency (SFAA)'s subsidies for primary and secondary school students), information provided by the departments concerned is as follows:

- (a) The Housing Authority (HA) provides public housing to applicants with housing need through the Waiting List System. Applicants may obtain the application forms and Information for Applicants which are available in both English and Chinese from the Housing Department (HD). To facilitate ethnic minorities with housing need to apply for public housing, the HD has put in place a number of

measures which include uploading leaflets in ethnic minority languages onto the HA/HD website to set out in detail the general information concerning application for public housing; employing 2 Pakistani Hall Attendants to offer reception and simple interpretation service in the HA Customer Service Centre to ethnic minority public housing applicants; providing translation service through the Centre for Harmony and Enhancement of Ethnic Minority Residents (CHEER) at the request of the ethnic minority public housing applicants.

- (b) The Labour Department (LD) has published leaflets of the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme in ethnic minority languages to provide details of the Scheme and to encourage ethnic minorities to apply for the subsidy. Although application forms for the Scheme are not available in ethnic minority languages, the LD will continue to arrange interpretation service for ethnic minority applicants in need through CHEER.
- (c) Application forms for various assistance schemes for primary and secondary school students administered by the SFAA are currently published in Chinese and English. Given that some ethnic minority students' parents with financial need may have difficulties in understanding the content of the application form, while schools would always have a better understanding of their students, the SFAA co-operates closely with schools to provide necessary assistance to students (including ethnic minority students) and their parents in need to facilitate them to apply to the SFAA for financial assistance. For those students who have received financial assistance in the past school year, the SFAA will provide their families with pre-printed application forms every year to remind them to apply for assistance for the coming year. Special assistance will be provided to individual families which have experienced special difficulties in the application process.

3. The above initiatives are an integral part of the work of the departments concerned and a separate breakdown of the related expenditures is not available.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB119

(Question Serial No. 6402)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 63):

In respect of the advisory and statutory bodies under the purview of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau, please provide the name, functions and number of members with a breakdown by gender and age (below 30 and above 30) of each of these bodies. Please also provide their total expenditure for the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

At present, there are a total of six Advisory and Statutory Bodies (ASBs) under the purview of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB). The names and functions of these ASBs are set out below -

Name	Function
Electoral Affairs Commission	To make recommendations on the boundaries of Legislative Council geographical constituencies and District Council constituencies, and to conduct and supervise elections. It is also responsible for supervising the registration of electors and making arrangements to ensure that elections are conducted openly, fairly and honestly.

Name	Function
Equal Opportunities Commission	To exercise the functions under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance and the Race Discrimination Ordinance.
Personal Data (Privacy) Advisory Committee	To advise the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data on matters relating to personal data privacy.
Advisory Group on Eliminating Discrimination against Sexual Minorities	To advise the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs on matters relating to concerns about discrimination faced by sexual minorities.
Consultative Committee on Economic and Trade Co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland	To advise the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government on matters relating to strengthening co-operation with the Mainland in economic, trade and other relevant areas.
Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee	Mainly to provide steer on the overall programme and strategy for promoting the Basic Law.

2. The above ASBs have a total of 87 government appointed non-official members. 69% of them are male and 31% are female. Besides, 1% of these members are under the age of 30 and 99% are at or above the age of 30.

3. Among the above ASBs, the Equal Opportunities Commission receives subvention from the Government, and the total subvention for the past five years amounted to \$439.45 million. The expenditure of the Personal Data (Privacy) Advisory Committee is included in the Government subvention for the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD), and the total subvention for PCPD for the past five years amounted to \$277.18 million. For the remaining ASBs, since the expenditure, if any, is subsumed under the total expenditure of CMAB and the Registration and Electoral Office, which is under the purview of CMAB, it is difficult to be quantified separately.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6425)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 252):

A provision of \$23.2 million (16.0%) has been set aside for the Bureau to enhance publicity to promote understanding on ethnic minorities, to enhance the promotion of the rights of children, to step up promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations through various education and publicity measures, to study the discrimination experienced by sexual minorities in Hong Kong, and to study overseas experience in implementing anti-stalking legislation and formulate the way forward on the Law Reform Commission's recommendations on stalking. Please inform this Committee of the expenditures and details of the abovementioned items.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

Details of and provision for the work items mentioned in the question in 2014-15 are as follows:

- (a) The Administration will promote racial equality through enhanced publicity and public education. The Administration will co-operate with Radio Television Hong Kong to produce a TV series and conduct a school outreach programme to help the public understand the cultures and customs of ethnic minorities, overcome barriers and eliminate discrimination. The estimated provision for this work is about \$3.35 million.
- (b) The Administration will continue its efforts in promoting children's rights through implementing the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme, organising the Children's Rights Forum, publicity and public education programmes, etc. The estimated provision for this work is about \$1.25 million.

- (c) The Administration will continue to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities through education and publicity, including organising various publicity and promotion programmes, sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation to public and private sector organisations, etc. The estimated provision for this work is about \$2.6 million.
 - (d) The Administration has commissioned a consultant to study whether sexual minorities are discriminated against in Hong Kong and, if so, the discrimination they experienced including the domains and forms of discrimination, and how they responded to it. The estimated provision for the study is about \$0.45 million.
 - (e) The Administration commissioned a consultant to study the experience of overseas jurisdictions in implementing anti-stalking legislation, and consulted the Panel on Constitutional Affairs on the consultant's findings and recommended formulation of the offence and exemptions on 16 December 2013. The Administration will carefully consider the findings and recommendations of the study and also listen to the views of stakeholders, with a view to formulating an appropriate way forward.
2. Apart from provision set aside for the above work, the estimated provision for Programme (4) also includes salary provision for relevant staff of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau etc.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6426)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 253):

How is the Bureau going to follow up on the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality (the Guidelines) issued in 2010? Has it assessed the effectiveness of the Guidelines to assist the relevant Government departments or public services provided to meet the targets laid down in the Guidelines?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) issued in April 2010 the Administrative Guidelines on Promotion of Racial Equality (the Guidelines) to provide general guidance to relevant Government bureaux and departments and public authorities to promote racial equality and ensure equal access by ethnic minorities to public services in key areas concerned, and to take this into account in their formulation, implementation and review of relevant policies and measures.

2. The Guidelines cover the key public services which are particularly relevant to meeting the special needs of ethnic minorities and facilitating their integration into the community, namely, medical, education, vocational training, employment and major community services. In 2010, the scope of application of the Guidelines covered 14 Government bureaux and departments and public authorities. In 2013, the scope of application of the Guidelines has been extended to cover a total of 21 Government bureaux and departments and public authorities.

3. According to the Guidelines, the departments should draw up checklists of measures that would assist in promoting racial equality and equal access to key public services to enhance the transparency of their work. The checklists contain contact information of the departments and have been uploaded onto the CMAB website. Where necessary, the departments will issue

updates on the information of the checklists.

4. The Guidelines have been implemented smoothly so far. The Administration will continue to review the implementation of the Guidelines in a timely manner and consider further extending the coverage of the Guidelines.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB122

(Question Serial No. 6427)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 254):

Regarding the promotion of equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities, please advise on the relevant measures taken, the government department(s) responsible for implementing the measures, resources allocated, target recipients, indicators and related details.

Measures	Responsible Government Department	Resources Allocated (\$)	Target Recipients and Number	Performance Indicators
Studies on the education and employment situations of ethnic minorities				
Promotion of ethnic minorities' understanding of government decisions, consultation and public services				
Public education to enhance cultural sensitivity				
Other measures (please specify)				

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

As stated in the 2014 Policy Address, the Administration will implement a number of

measures to strengthen education support and employment services for ethnic minorities and to help them integrate into the community. Relevant policies and measures are under the purview of different bureaux and departments, spanning across different policy areas and targeting different recipients, and hence it is difficult to quantify specific performance indicators. Highlights of measures under various bureaux, departments and relevant organisations are detailed in the table below-

Measures	Responsible Government Department	Resources Allocated (\$)	Target Recipients and Number
<i>Enhancement of education and employment support for ethnic minorities</i>			
<p>The Education Bureau (EDB) has put in place education support for non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students since the 2006/07 school year, and has been continuously evaluating the effectiveness of various measures, taking into consideration the views of different stakeholders with a view to refining the support measures to facilitate NCS students' early integration into the community, including adaptation to the local education system and mastery of the Chinese language.</p>	EDB	As relevant manpower and expenditure for some support measures have been subsumed in the overall expenditure of the EDB, a breakdown of expenditure by item is not available.	Mainly for all NCS students in public sector schools and Direct Subsidy Scheme schools. About 15 900 NCS students with reference to the 2013/14 school year.
<p>From the 2014/15 school year, to ensure NCS students' equal opportunities in learning as their local counterparts, support for NCS students will be stepped up to facilitate their effective learning of the Chinese language and create an inclusive learning environment in schools. Major support measures include providing the "Chinese Language Curriculum Second Language Learning Framework" in primary and secondary schools; enhancing Chinese teachers' professional capabilities in teaching Chinese as a second language; enhancing additional recurrent funding and school-based professional support for schools; providing, in stages, an Applied Learning (Chinese Language) subject for NCS students at senior secondary level as an alternative Chinese language qualification, and inviting experts to formulate a research framework to</p>		About \$200 million per year	

Measures	Responsible Government Department	Resources Allocated (\$)	Target Recipients and Number
facilitate the evaluation of the effectiveness of various support measures for NCS students and to examine the quality of the support measures for continuous refinement.			
<p>Proactively help ethnic minority job seekers find work, and promote the working abilities of the ethnic minorities to private sector organisations so as to enhance their employment opportunities.</p> <p>Continue to set up special counters in the 12 job centres of the Labour Department (LD) to provide job referral services for ethnic minorities; tailor-made briefing will be organised once every month to help ethnic minorities understand the local employment market situation and improve job search skills. Ethnic minorities can also meet the employment advisors to obtain advice and customised employment services.</p> <p>Continue to canvass suitable vacancies for ethnic minority job seekers and organise large-scale and district-based job fairs to help them secure employment. In 2014-15, 2 large-scale job fairs and 9 district-based job fairs targeting ethnic minorities will be organised to help them find work.</p>	LD	Expenditures for providing employment services and organising district-based job fairs for ethnic minorities will be absorbed in the operating costs of the LD, hence no separate breakdown is identifiable. As for the organisation of large-scale job fairs, the estimated expenditure for 2014-15 is \$0.36 million.	Ethnic minority job seekers and employers in the private sector (no pre-set number)
Implement measures to ensure that ethnic minorities, like other applicants, have equal access to job opportunities in the Government. These measures include reviewing and adjusting the Chinese language proficiency requirements and recruitment formats of relevant Government jobs on the basis that the adjusted requirements/formats will continue to allow the satisfactory performance of duties.	Civil Service Bureau	To be absorbed within existing resources	Ethnic minorities who are interested in applying for Government jobs
Offer dedicated training courses in English for ethnic minorities to meet their	ERB	Estimate for 2014-15 is	Ethnic minorities at

Measures	Responsible Government Department	Resources Allocated (\$)	Target Recipients and Number
employment needs. Training bodies have to provide a 6-month placement follow-up services to those who have completed full-time placement-tied courses. In 2014-15, the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) will offer 25 dedicated training courses with 800 training places reserved for ethnic minorities.		about \$5 million	the age of 15 or above with an education attainment at sub-degree or below
Continue to implement promotional activities and collaborate with the construction industry to stage job fairs to attract new ethnic minorities to join the industry, and attract in-service ethnic minority construction workers to attend training courses to enhance skills.	Construction Industry Council	Estimate for 2014-15 is about \$0.36 million	Ethnic minorities
<i>Promotion of ethnic minorities' understanding of government decisions, consultation and public services</i>			
Continue to maintain communication with ethnic minority communities and non-government organisations dedicated to serving them through the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony and Ethnic Minorities Forum which will advise the Government on formulation of strategies to promote racial harmony and strengthening of support services.	Home Affairs Department (HAD)	The expenditure involved will be included in the total expenditure of the HAD, hence a breakdown of expenditure is not available.	Ethnic minorities
Continue to enhance ethnic minorities' awareness of LD's employment services : continuous efforts will be made to promote the Department's employment services to ethnic minorities through various channels (such as radio programmes, newspapers, and non-governmental organisations, etc. serving the ethnic minorities). Gauge the views of job seekers, including ethnic minority job seekers, on the employment services of the Department to ensure effectiveness in helping them find	LD	The expenditure involved will be absorbed in the operating expenditure of the LD's job centres, and the related work is undertaken by existing staff in addition to	Ethnic minority job seekers (no pre-set number)

Measures	Responsible Government Department	Resources Allocated (\$)	Target Recipients and Number
work.		their own duties, hence no separate breakdowns are identifiable.	
<i>Public education to enhance cultural sensitivity</i>			
Co-operate with Radio Television Hong Kong to produce a TV series and conduct a school outreach programme to help the public understand the cultures and customs of ethnic minorities, overcome barriers and eliminate discrimination.	Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau	Estimate for 2014-15 is about \$3.35 million	Members of the public and secondary school students
In 2014-15, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) will conduct new public education and promotion programmes and studies to promote the messages of inclusion and diversity, fostering social integration and building a caring society. The EOC's preliminary plan is to set up an Ethnic Minority Taskforce to promote the work of the EOC. The Taskforce will conduct publicity campaigns and educational programmes, including new training services on cultural sensitivity and the Race Discrimination Ordinance, and organise more partnership programmes with different organisations (including the business sector) to promote equal opportunities for ethnic minorities.	EOC	Estimate for 2014-15 is about \$4.69 million	Include relevant government bureaux, schools, stakeholders and service organisations
<i>Strengthening services of support centres and other measures</i>			
Set up a new support service centre for ethnic minorities in Kwai Tsing to provide tailor-made classes, counselling and integration programmes.	HAD	Estimate for 2014-15 is \$4.55 million	Ethnic minorities (7 000 service recipients per year)

Measures	Responsible Government Department	Resources Allocated (\$)	Target Recipients and Number
Set up youth units in all support service centres and sub-centres to provide dedicated programmes such as sports and cultural activities to help the personal development of ethnic minority youths.		Estimate for 2014-15 is \$4.80 million	Ethnic minorities (3 600 service recipients per year)
Implement a youth ambassador scheme to recruit ambassadors familiar with ethnic minority cultures and languages and with a similar background to reach out to ethnic minority youths to share their experience, offer advice and make referrals as necessary.		Estimate for 2014-15 is \$2.25 million	Ethnic minorities (4 500 service recipients per year)
Strengthen manpower support to implement these initiatives by recruiting 5 additional staff familiar with ethnic minority cultures and languages.		Estimate for 2014-15 is \$0.95 million	-
Increase the number of ethnic minority members of the Junior Police Call (JPC) from more than 1 900 at present to 2 500 in 5 years; help nourish leadership skills of ethnic minority youths and instill positive values through JPC activities and training.	Hong Kong Police Force	This initiative is under the Programme “Maintenance of Law and Order in the Community” and a breakdown of estimated expenditure in this respect is not available.	Ethnic minority youths (no pre-set number)
Provide on-site and telephone interpretation services in 17 ethnic minority languages to patients seeking healthcare services. Provide front-line staff of the Hospital Authority (HA) with cue cards, disease information sheets and consent forms in 18 ethnic minority languages to facilitate the registration and provision of services for ethnic minorities.	Food and Health Bureau	Estimated amount of about \$3.60 million for 2014-15	Patients in public hospitals and clinics under the HA

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB123

(Question Serial No. 5654)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 67):

For public opinion surveys on subjects such as constitutional matters conducted/to be conducted by the Bureau and the Central Policy Unit in the past and coming financial years, will the Administration advise this Committee of the following: the title and objective of, and the expenditure and institution engaged for each survey? Will findings of the surveys be made public? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The Central Policy Unit regularly conducts internal studies and commissions academic and commercial research institutes to carry out opinion polls on different public policy issues. The findings are for the Government's internal reference and will not be made public by the Central Policy Unit.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5655)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 68):

It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15 that (the Bureau will) “continue to carry out the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) in 2017 and for forming the LegCo in 2016”. Will the Administration advise this Committee of: the total expenditure involved and manpower arrangement for the above consultation exercise, and the timetable for pursuing constitutional development afterwards?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) and have created 7 time-limited posts, including 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post for about 2 months and 6 posts (1 Administrative Officer, 1 Senior Executive Officer, 1 Executive Officer II and 3 Assistant Clerical Officers) for 1 year for the public consultation on the 2 electoral methods. After the first-stage consultation period ends in May 2014, the Government will summarise and consolidate the views received. The Chief Executive (CE) will submit a report to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC) in accordance with the Interpretation made by the NPCSC in 2004 and the NPCSC will determine whether there is a need to amend the methods for selecting the CE and for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo). After the NPCSC has made the decision, we expect the second stage public consultation can be launched in the second half of 2014, and the package of proposals to amend the annexes to the Basic Law can be put forward to the LegCo after the completion of the consultation.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 4620)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

- (1) Director of Bureau's Office
- (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
- (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
- (4) Rights of the Individual
- (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 118):

In regard to the growing co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland in recent years, please provide relevant information on Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in which the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and the department under the Bureau's purview have been involved.

(a) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes, please provide information in 2011-12 to 2013-14 as per following table:

Project/ Programme	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/ Guangdong Co-operation (the Framework Agreement)	Expenditure involved	Mainland official and department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, commencement date, target completion date)	Have the details, objectives, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If so, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the project/ programme

					not, what are the reasons?	
--	--	--	--	--	----------------------------	--

(b) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in 2014-15, please provide information as per following table:

Project/ Programme	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement	Expenditure involved	Mainland official and department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, commencement date, target completion date)	Will the details, objectives, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology be released to the public? If so, through which channels and what will be the manpower and expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?	Details of the legislative amendments or policy changes involved in the project/ programme

(c) Apart from the projects or programmes listed above, are there any other modes of Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary co-operation? If so, what are they? What were the manpower and expenditure involved over the past 3 years? How much financial and manpower resources have been earmarked in the Estimates for 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) attaches great importance to enhancing co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland. There is general consensus in our community that co-operation with Guangdong is mutually beneficial and complementary. The Legislative Council (LegCo), for example, reaffirmed its strong support by passing 2 motions entitled “Proactively implementing the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation” and “Promoting regional economic integration between Guangdong and Hong Kong” on 26 May 2010 and 5 May 2011 respectively. The motions urged the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government to formulate and implement the specific policies and measures outlined in the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation (Framework Agreement) as early as possible, and to promote economic integration between Guangdong and Hong Kong on various fronts.

2. The Administration has briefed the House Committee and different Panels of LegCo on individual aspects of the Framework Agreement on various occasions. The full text of the Framework Agreement was issued on the day it was signed (7 April 2010) and details were announced in a press release. While CMAB is responsible for co-ordinating the efforts of the HKSAR Government in promoting co-operation with Guangdong, specific projects are initiated and taken forward by the relevant policy bureaux and departments. Where necessary, relevant parties such as advisory boards and LegCo would be briefed or consulted in accordance with established practice.

3. Since the Framework Agreement was signed in 2010, good progress has been made in its implementation. The 2014 Work Plan setting out the work programme of Hong Kong/Guangdong co-operation for the year was agreed and signed in March this year.

4. Policy matters on deepening regional co-operation under Programme (2) “Constitutional and Mainland Affairs” are mainly handled by 2 teams of staff in CMAB. In addition, the Beijing Office and the 4 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan (Mainland Offices) respectively under Programme (3) “Mainland and Taiwan Offices” play a leading and co-ordinating role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. As the work involved is an integral part of the duties and functions of the officers concerned in CMAB and the Mainland Offices, the manpower provision cannot be singled out or quantified by regions. Broadly speaking, an estimated financial provision of about \$151 million (excluding staff cost) under the 2 said Programmes is for CMAB and the Mainland Offices to take forward the work to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland in 2014-15.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 4631)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
(4) Rights of the Individual
(5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 128):

Regarding the studies (if any) conducted by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and its department for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, please provide information in the following format.

(a) Using the table below, please provide information about studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds had been allocated in the past 2 financial years (2012-13 and 2013-14):

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

(b) Are there any projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting consultancy studies this year (2014-15)? If yes, please provide the following information:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

(c) What are the criteria for considering the award of consultancy projects to the research institutions concerned?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

Regarding the consultancy studies commissioned by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, the relevant information is provided below -

(a) For studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds had been allocated in 2012-13 and 2013-14 -

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Xi'an Jiaotong University	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	CEPA Implementation in Shaanxi To understand the status of CEPA implementation in Shaanxi and explore the business opportunities	RMB 150,000	May 2012	Completed	The study report was passed to the relevant Government departments in the Mainland and Hong Kong.	The summary of the findings was released through a joint press conference held by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Chengdu (CDETO), Shaanxi Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office and Shaanxi

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
		of Shaanxi for Hong Kong enterprises					Department of Commerce. The press release has been uploaded to CDETO's website.
Centre for Comparative and Public Law of the University of Hong Kong	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	Study on the Experience of Overseas Jurisdictions in Implementing Anti-stalking Legislation	HK\$ 850,000	Jan 2013	Completed	The Administration had consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Constitutional Affairs on the recommendations of the study and is considering the way forward.	Executive summary of the report and the full report have been uploaded to CMAB's website.
Colliers International	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	City-specific Rental Index for Officers Posted/ Seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan To obtain the city-specific rental index for the annual revision of rent allowance for officers posted/ seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan	HK\$ 429,000	Feb 2013	Completed	Adopted	The information obtained is used internally to review the rent allowance for officers posted/seconded to the Mainland and Taiwan.

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For completed projects, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Policy 21 Limited	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	<p>Study on Discrimination Experienced by Sexual Minorities in Hong Kong</p> <p>To study whether sexual minorities are discriminated against in Hong Kong and, if so, the discrimination they experienced including the domains and forms of discrimination, and how they responded to it</p>	HK \$445,000	Nov 2013	In progress	Not applicable as the study is yet to be completed.	The report, when completed, will be passed to the Advisory Group on Eliminating Discrimination against Sexual Minorities for consideration of how to follow up with the findings of the study.
Colliers International	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	Rent Allowance for Officers Posted/ Seconded to Wuhan	HK \$85,000	Dec 2013	Completed	Adopted	The information obtained is used internally to determine the rent allowance for officers posted/seconded to Wuhan

(b) For project for which funds have been reserved for conducting study in 2014-15 -

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Con-sultancy fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Not applicable as the procurement procedures are yet to be completed	Selection of quotation based on the criteria at (c) below	CEPA implementation in Guizhou To understand the status of CEPA implementation in Guizhou and explore the business opportunities of Guizhou for Hong Kong enterprises	Not applicable as the procurement procedures are yet to be completed	April 2014	Under planning	Not applicable as the study is yet to be started.	The summary of the findings will be released through a joint press conference to be held by CDETO and Guizhou Department of Commerce. The full report will be distributed to the relevant Government departments in the Mainland and Hong Kong.

(c) The consultancy projects were awarded to the research institutions concerned after considering the following criteria -

- (i) the research institution's background and relevant past experience on the research topic;
- (ii) the research team's understanding and knowledge of the research topic; and
- (iii) whether the quoted consultancy fee is reasonable.

In applying the above criteria, we also took into account the views given to us by relevant local authorities.

2. The Registration and Electoral Office, which is under the purview of CMAB, has not commissioned any consultancy study, and currently has no plan for new consultancy studies to be conducted in 2014-15.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5451)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 172):

Please list out the organisations/bodies/individuals that have received funding from the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit over the past 3 years (as at 2013), the nature of the funded activities/initiatives and the amount of funding for each activity/initiative. Please also advise on the criteria for assessing funding applications, including whether consideration is given to whether those organisations/bodies/individuals have given misleading remarks on gender identity and sexual orientation that have resulted in deeper-seated prejudice against people of different sexual orientations.

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

The objective of the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme (Funding Scheme) is to provide funding support to worthwhile community projects that aim to promote equal opportunities on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity, or seek to provide support services for sexual minorities. Funding applications received are considered and assessed by an Assessment Committee comprising official and non-official members. The assessment criteria adopted by the Assessment Committee include:

- (a) objective of the proposed activities;
- (b) content of the proposal (including scope of the project, whether and to what extent it is relevant to the objective of the Funding Scheme, target and anticipated number of beneficiaries);
- (c) financial consideration (including budget and cost-effectiveness);

- (d) feasibility of the activities;
- (e) background of the applicant (including its experience and capability, and its previous performance in the Funding Scheme (if applicable));
- (f) publicity plan; and
- (g) other factors (e.g. any sponsorship by other parties).

The activities sponsored in the past 3 years are set out at Annex.

**Approved funding under the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme
in 2011-12 to 2013-14**

2011-12

Name of Applicant	Nature of Activities	Approved Amount (HK\$)
BGCAHK Jockey Club Tsz Wan Shan Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	Essay writing, audio recording competition and production of booklets	85,800
BGCAHK South Kwai Chung Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	Song composition and stage performances	77,900
Bravo Theatre	Drama performances	98,000
Community Drug Advisory Council	Exhibition and production of publications	40,100
Community Health Organisation for Intervention, Care and Empowerment Limited	Seminar	4,500
G.A.S. Theatre	Drama performances	74,300
Kowloon Tong School (Secondary Section)	Counselling service and production of booklets	5,500
Rainbow of Hong Kong	Workshops and counselling service for transgenders	46,600
The Association for the Advancement of Feminism	Production of publication, film show and sharing session	37,000
Transgender Resource Center	Workshops and production of booklets for transgenders	35,300
Tree Valley Drama Education Limited	Workshops and drama training	31,200
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Hotline and Outreaching Service Team	Training for volunteers, outreaching service for sexual minorities and production of publications	33,100
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals CEASE Crisis Centre	Training for frontline social workers	5,700

2012-13

Name of Applicant	Nature of Activities	Approved Amount (HK\$)
BGCAHK Jockey Club Cheung Sha Wan Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	Production of CDs and picture books	78,600
BGCAHK Jockey Club Tsz Wan Shan Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	Production of short films and booklets	88,000
BGCAHK South Kwai Chung Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	Stage performances	78,700
Bravo Theatre	Drama performances	97,000
Community Drug Advisory Council	Exhibition and production of leaflets	37,600
Dynamic Art Theatre	Drama performances	65,700
G.A.S. Theatre	Drama performances	75,000
Nu Tong Xue She	Creative writing and visual arts training for sexual minorities and an exhibition	56,800
Queer Sisters	Production of DVDs and workshop for frontline social workers	31,200
Rainbow of Hong Kong	Training for volunteers, and counselling service for sexual minorities	44,900
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals CEASE Crisis Centre	Training for volunteers, outreaching service for sexual minorities and production of publications	31,900

2013-14

Name of Applicant	Nature of Activities	Approved Amount (HK\$)
BGCAHK Jockey Club Cheung Sha Wan Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	Workshops and production of photo albums	38,500
BGCAHK South Kwai Chung Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	Drama production and performances	78,900
BGCAHK Jockey Club Tsz Wan Shan Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	Workshops and drama performances	64,600
BigLove Alliance Limited	Song composing competition and concert	37,600
Bravo Theatre	Drama performances	83,100
Department of Sociology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Study and exhibition	33,100
Dynamic Art Theatre	Drama performances	71,100
G.A.S. Theatre	Drama performances	85,400
Hong Kong Christian Institute	Case study, seminar and production of reports	62,700
Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association	Training for volunteers, production of short movies and an exchange camp	23,800
Rainbow Action	Production of short films	38,000
Rainbow of Hong Kong	Talks and counselling service for sexual minorities	51,200
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Jockey Club Shaukiwan Youth S.P.O.T.	Workshops, drama performances and exhibition	72,200
Transgender Resource Centre	Hotline service for transgenders and production of leaflets	36,800
Tung Wah Group of Hospitals CEASE Crisis Centre	Training for volunteers, outreaching service for sexual minorities and production of leaflets	57,900

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 4804)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 77):

(a) Please provide relevant information on cross-boundary projects or programmes that the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has collaborated with Mainland departments or in which it has been involved over the past five years (i.e. 2009-10 to 2013-14) and in the coming five years (i.e. 2014-15 to 2018-19), as well as the manpower and expenditure involved as per following table:

Project/ Programme	Details and objective	Mainland department or organisation involved	Progress	Has the project/ programme been released to the public?	Details of the legislation or policy involved in the project/ programme	Manpower and expenditure involved

(b) Please set out the number, contents, objectives of and respective expenditure involved for all meetings, lunches and dinners between CMAB and the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (Liaison Office) and Mainland departments over the past five years (i.e 2009-10 to 2013-14).

(c) Please set out the number, contents, objectives of, number of participants in and expenditure involved for all duty visits and studies to the Mainland made by CMAB staff over

the past five years (i.e 2009-10 to 2013-14).

(d) Please set out the number, contents, objectives of, number of participants in and expenditure involved for all overseas duty visits and studies (excluding the Mainland) made by CMAB staff over the past five years (i.e 2009-10 to 2013-14).

Asked by: Hon. IP Kin-yuen

Reply:

While the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) is responsible for the overall co-ordination of the efforts of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government in promoting regional co-operation with provinces/municipalities in the Mainland, specific co-operation projects are initiated and taken forward by the relevant policy bureaux and departments.

2. CMAB maintains necessary working relationships with the central and provincial/municipal authorities in the Mainland, as well as offices of the Central People's Government in the HKSAR to ensure effective exchanges. We do not keep a separate account to capture related expenditure.

3. For official duty visits to the Mainland, Macao and Taiwan undertaken by officers of CMAB on matters relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs and rights of the individual over the past five years (2009-10 to 2013-14), the relevant information is provided below –

Year (Number of visits)	Content/objective	Number of officers	Expenditure (\$)^{Note}
2009-10 (58)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participation of the HKSAR in the Expo 2010 Shanghai China (Expo 2010) • promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland • enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan 	1-9 officers per visit	912,510
2010-11 (81)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participation of the HKSAR in the Expo 2010 • promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland • enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Taiwan 	1-13 officers per visit	1,444,930

2011-12 (57)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland • enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan 	1-11 officers per visit	801,420
2012-13 (33)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland • enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan 	1-12 officers per visit	379,000
2013-14 (54)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland • enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan • attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings 	1-8 officers per visit	345,230

4. For official duty visits outside Hong Kong (excluding the Mainland, Macao and Taiwan) undertaken by officers of CMAB on matters relating to constitutional and Mainland affairs and rights of the individual over the past five years (2009-10 to 2013-14), the relevant information is provided below –

Year (Number of visits)	Content/objective	Number of officers	Expenditure (\$)^{Note}
2009-10 (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participating in United Nations hearings concerning human rights • attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings 	1-3 officers per visit	229,130
2010-11 (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings 	1 officer	13,300
2011-12 (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings 	1 officer	53,570

2012-13 (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • experience sharing on issues related to electoral arrangements • participating in United Nations hearings concerning human rights • attending Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation Data Privacy Sub-group Meetings 	1-5 officers per visit	494,990
2013-14 (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participating in United Nations hearings concerning human rights 	1-3 officers per visit	367,170

Note:

- (1) The above expenditure includes expenditure on hotel accommodation and flight tickets, but excludes the following –
 - (a) overseas subsistence allowance provided to officers concerned, expenses on communication, etc.; and
 - (b) the expenditure which was sponsored by the hosting government for certain duty visits.
- (2) The arrangement of hotel accommodation was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations and guidelines.
- (3) Proper class of air passages was provided to officers concerned in accordance with the relevant Civil Service Regulations which take into account ranking of their offices, flying time, flight schedule and details.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB129

(Question Serial No. 5389)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 54):

1. Please set out the number of complaints received and investigated by the Equal Opportunities Commission from 2012 to 2014, including the current financial year, by nature of complaints.
2. Out of the above number of cases, please give a breakdown by race, nationality and gender of complainants respectively.

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

In 2012-13 and 2013-14 (as at the end of February 2014), the number of complaints received and investigated by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) in relation to the 4 anti-discrimination ordinances are as follows:

Ordinance	Number of complaints received and investigated
Sex Discrimination Ordinance (SDO)	472
Disability Discrimination Ordinance	825
Family Status Discrimination Ordinance	42
Race Discrimination Ordinance (RDO)	91

2. The records of complainants under the SDO show that the ratio of male complainants to female complainants is around 53:418 (1 self-initiated investigation). The EOC has not collected information on the gender of complainants for the other 3 ordinances.

3. The EOC has not collected information on the nationality of complainants for any discrimination ordinances.

4. The EOC only collects information on the race of complainants when handling cases related to the RDO. In 2012-13 and 2013-14 (as at the end of February 2014), the ethnicities of the complainants were mainly Chinese, Filipino, Indian and Pakistani. There were also a few complainants of other ethnicities, including Indonesian, Thai, Australian, Japanese, Nepali, etc.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB130

(Question Serial No. 5390)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 55):

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15, it is stated that the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) will build relationships with stakeholder bodies in the Mainland and overseas. In this connection, will EOC organise any exchange on how to protect Mainland or overseas visitors from being discriminated?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

The main functions of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) are to eliminate discrimination and promote equal opportunities as provided by the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance and the Race Discrimination Ordinance. In discharging its functions, the EOC will build relationships with stakeholder bodies in the Mainland and overseas. In addition, the EOC also pays attention to discrimination that may occur in other areas and appeals to different sectors of the community to adopt an attitude of equal opportunities towards different people. At present, there are no specific provisions in the 4 anti-discrimination ordinances set out for tourists.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB131

(Question Serial No. 5431)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 58):

In 2014-15, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will continue to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, targeting in particular at Guangdong, Beijing, Shanghai, the Chengdu-Chongqing Economic Zone, the Economic Zone on the West Coast of the Taiwan Strait and other provinces and regions in the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region. Please give a detailed account of the work done in this respect in the past and to be undertaken in 2014-15. What are the expenditure and staff arrangement involved?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

Policy matters on deepening regional co-operation under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs" are mainly handled by 2 teams of staff in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB). In addition, the Beijing Office and the 4 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan (Mainland Offices) respectively under Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices" play a leading and co-ordinating role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. As the work involved is an integral part of the duties and functions of the officers concerned in the CMAB and the Mainland Offices, the manpower provision cannot be singled out or separately quantified. Generally speaking, an estimated financial provision of about \$151 million (excluding staff cost) under the 2 said Programmes is for the CMAB and the Mainland Offices to take forward the work to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland in 2014-15.

2. With the above provision, CMAB and the Mainland Offices will deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, including organising and providing logistic support for co-operation fora (such as conferences and meetings) in Hong Kong; participating in bilateral and multilateral co-operation fora in the Mainland; enhancing liaison and communications with the

Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland; and organising events (such as seminars, exhibitions and workshops) to promote Hong Kong's strengths and trade and commercial interests.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 4349)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 3.12):

Would the Administration provide the following data in relation to the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 2016 to this Committee:

(1) What is the amount of funding set aside by the Administration to carry out the public consultation on the methods for selecting the CE in 2017 and for forming the LegCo in 2016? Please provide a detailed breakdown on the estimated expenditure and staff establishment involved;

(2) Regarding the above consultation, what is the amount of funding used by the Administration in 2013-14 for publicity through outdoor media? Please provide a detailed breakdown on the expenditures. What is the relevant estimate for 2014-15?

(3) Regarding the above consultation, what is the amount of funding used by the Administration in 2013-14 for publicity through press media? Please provide a detailed breakdown on the expenditures. What will be the relevant estimate for 2014-15?

(4) Regarding the above consultation, what is the amount of funding used by the Administration in 2013-14 for publicity through the Internet, such as social media, search engine, etc.? Please provide a detailed breakdown on the expenditures. What will be the relevant estimate for 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

(1) In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) and created 7 time-limited posts, including 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post for about 2 months and 6 posts (including 1 Administrative Officer, 1 Senior Executive Officer, 1 Executive Officer II and 3 Assistant Clerical Officers) for 1 year for the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016. The breakdown of the above estimate is as Table 1:

Table 1

	million (\$)
Printing	3.1
Publicity and consultation sessions	8.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.5
Total	12.1

(2) In 2013-14, the revised estimate for the above mentioned public consultation is about \$7.2 million (excluding staff cost) and its breakdown is at Table 2. The \$6.1 million used for publicity and consultation sessions already includes approximately \$3.8 million used on publicity through outdoor media, including the expenses for advertising in MTR stations and train compartments, on bus bodies and at bus stops, on outdoor billboards, etc. At present, no breakdown on the estimated expenditure of the related items for 2014-15 is available.

Table 2

	million (\$)
Printing	0.9
Publicity and consultation sessions	6.1
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.2
Total	7.2

(3) For the above consultation exercise, no expense was incurred from publicity through press media in 2013-14. At present, no breakdown on the estimated expenditure of the related items for 2014-15 is available.

(4) For the above consultation exercise, the \$6.1 million used for publicity and consultation sessions in 2013-14 already includes approximately \$490,000 used on publicity through the Internet, including the expenses for advertising on websites such as Yahoo, YouTube, Facebook, Openrice, etc. At present, no breakdown on the estimated expenditure of the related items for 2014-15 is available.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6518)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 457):

Will the Administration provide the following information:

(1) It is mentioned under Programme (2) that (the Bureau will) “continue to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, targeting in particular at Guangdong, Beijing, Shanghai, the Chengdu-Chongqing Economic Zone, the Economic Zone on the West Coast of the Taiwan Strait and other provinces and regions in the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region”. In respect of this initiative, what are the relevant details? What are the efforts that have been made in the past, the future plan and the estimated expenditure for this financial year?

(2) It is mentioned under Programme (2) that (the Bureau will) “continue to carry out the public constitution on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) in 2017 and for forming the LegCo in 2016”. In respect of this initiative, what are the relevant details? What are the efforts that have been made in the past, the future plan and the estimated expenditure for this financial year?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

Policy matters on deepening regional co-operation under Programme (2) “Constitutional and Mainland Affairs” are mainly handled by 2 teams of staff in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB). In addition, the Beijing Office and the 4 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan (Mainland Offices) respectively under Programme (3) “Mainland and Taiwan Offices” play a leading and co-ordinating role in fostering closer ties with the Mainland at various levels. As the work involved is an integral part of the duties and functions of the officers concerned in the CMAB and the Mainland Offices, the manpower provision cannot be singled out or separately quantified.

Generally speaking, an estimated financial provision of about \$151 million (excluding staff cost) under the 2 said Programmes is for the CMAB and the Mainland Offices to take forward the work to deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland in 2014-15.

2. With the above provision, CMAB and the Mainland Offices will deepen regional co-operation with the Mainland, including organising and providing logistic support for co-operation fora (such as conferences and meetings) in Hong Kong; participating in bilateral and multilateral co-operation fora in the Mainland; enhancing liaison and communications with the Central People's Government, the provincial and municipal governments and other local authorities in the Mainland; and organising events (such as seminars, exhibitions and workshops) to promote Hong Kong's strengths and trade and commercial interests.

3. On 4 December 2013, the HKSAR Government formally commenced the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 2016 to prepare for the "Five-step Process" of constitutional development. The 5-month consultation will end on 3 May 2014. At this stage, the Government will continue to listen to the views and suggestions from different sectors of the community and the public at large with an open, inclusive and pragmatic mind. After the consultation period, the Government will summarise and consolidate the views received. The CE will submit a report to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPCSC) in accordance with the Interpretation made by the NPCSC in 2004 and the NPCSC will determine whether there is a need to amend the methods for selecting the CE and for forming the LegCo. After the NPCSC has made the decision, we expect the second stage public consultation can be launched in the second half of 2014, and the package of proposals to amend the annexes to the Basic Law can be put forward to the LegCo after the completion of the consultation. In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) for the public consultation on the methods for selecting the CE in 2017 and for forming the LegCo in 2016.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB134

(Question Serial No. 6519)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 458):

Will the Administration advise this Committee of the following:

(1) Education or promotion activities in respect of children, people with disabilities, sexual minorities, ethnic minorities and fundamental human rights that have been organised. Please set out the activities in table form.

(2) The estimated expenditure on the above 5 types of education or promotion activities for this financial year. Please give a breakdown as per following table:

Education/promotion activities	Estimated expenditure for 2014-15
Children	
People with disabilities	
Sexual minorities	
Ethnic minorities	
Fundamental human rights	

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

The Government's public education and promotion activities on human rights are taken forward by a number of policy bureaux, notably the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB), the Education Bureau (EDB), the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) and the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB).

2. Education and promotion activities in respect of children, people with disabilities, sexual minorities, ethnic minorities and fundamental human rights organised by the Government in 2013-14 are detailed at the Annex.

3. As education and promotion activities of various bureaux and departments are an integral part of their daily work, separate breakdowns of expenditures for each of such activities are not available. For example, the EDB has been facilitating the promotion of human rights education in schools, through measures such as embedding related learning elements in the curriculum, organising teacher professional development programmes, and developing learning and teaching resources, while the HAB has been promoting civic education, (including human rights) outside schools, in collaboration with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education, through means such as providing sponsorship to community organisations to organise civic education activities and producing publicity programmes and materials.

4. Activities where breakdowns of expenditure are available include:

(a) Under Programme (5), the CMAB has set aside provision for the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data to carry out promotion and education programmes and enforcement work within their statutory framework to promote rights of the individual with respect to personal data privacy, promote equal opportunities and eliminate discrimination; in 2014-15, the estimated expenditure is \$169.8 million.

(b) Under Programme (4), the CMAB is committed to promoting rights of the individual, increasing the community's awareness of, respect for and protection of human rights; in 2014-15, the estimated expenditure is \$23.20 million. The CMAB will promote racial equality through enhanced publicity and public education including co-operating with Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) to produce a TV series and conduct a school outreach programme to help the public understand the cultures and customs of ethnic minorities, overcome barriers and eliminate discrimination. The Administration will continue to promote children's rights through, inter alia, the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme, the Children's Rights Forum, publicity and public education. It will also continue to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities through education and publicity, including organising various publicity and promotion programmes, sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation to the public and private sector organisations, etc.

(c) The LWB organises territory-wide public education activities and provides sponsorship to the 18 District Councils and community organisations to organise publicity programmes in the community for promoting the spirit and core values enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) as well as the message of building a barrier-free and inclusive society. In 2014-15, the estimated expenditure of the LWB for the above public education activities is about \$13.50 million.

**Education or Promotion Activities in respect of Children, People with Disabilities,
Sexual Minorities, Ethnic Minorities and Fundamental Human Rights (in 2013-14)**

Activities	Responsible organisation	Target
<i>Children</i>		
Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public, in particular children
Co-operate with RTHK to conduct a school outreach programme to promote children's rights and produce a related TV programme	CMAB and RTHK	Members of the public, in particular children
Announcement in the Public Interest (API) to promote children's rights	CMAB	Members of the public, in particular children
Publication of comic booklet on Convention on the Rights of the Child	CMAB	Members of the public, in particular children
<i>People with disabilities</i>		
Co-operate with RTHK to produce a documentary series "A Wall-less World IV" and publish a related DVD set (with audio descriptions in Chinese, English or Cantonese as well as sign language) to promote the spirit and core values enshrined in the UNCRPD	LWB	Members of the public
Co-operate with RTHK to produce programmes that promote sign language and publish a related DVD set	LWB	Members of the public
Co-operate with RTHK to produce a minuter series "Talent-Wise Recruitment" to promote employment of people with disabilities	LWB	Members of the public
Organise "Inclusive Life - Show your Different Abilities" Youth Programme IV (including experimental exhibition Dialogue in the Dark, school activity day and Youth Ambassador Training for promoting the spirit and core values enshrined in the UNCRPD)	LWB	Members of the public, in particular students and youth
Organise school roving exhibitions for promoting the comic booklet on UNCRPD	LWB	Members of the public, in particular students

Activities	Responsible organisation	Target
Provide sponsorship to the 18 District Councils, non-government organisations and community organisations to organise publicity programmes in the community for promoting the spirit and core values enshrined in the UNCRPD as well as the message of building a barrier-free and inclusive society	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public
<i>Sexual minorities</i>		
Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities	CMAB	Members of the public
<i>Fundamental human rights</i>		
Publication of United Nations Human Rights reports	CMAB	Members of the public
Forums, e.g. Human Rights Forum and Children's Rights Forum	CMAB	Interested non-government organisations mainly, also open to interested members of the public
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote the public's understanding of the new regulatory regime relating to direct marketing under the Personal Data (Privacy) (Amendment) Ordinance 2012 which came into operation on 1 April 2013	CMAB	Members of the public
Various publicity measures such as API and advertisement to promote the Code on Access to Information	CMAB	Members of the public
Promote human rights education in schools through measures such as embedding related elements in the curriculum, organising teacher professional development programmes, and developing learning and teaching resources	EDB	Teachers, students

Activities	Responsible organisation	Target
HAB collaborates with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education to promote civic education, including human rights, outside schools through means such as providing sponsorship to community organisations to organise civic education activities and producing publicity programmes and materials	Sponsored organisations	Members of the public

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB135

(Question Serial No. 4283)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 34):

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention under this Programme that publicity to promote understanding on ethnic minorities will be enhanced. It is also stated that provision for this year under the Programme is \$3.2 million (16%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14 mainly due to increased provision for promoting understanding on ethnic minorities. Will the Government please advise on the following:

- a. What is the amount of allocation earmarked for the above initiative?
- b. In what ways will the Government enhance publicity to promote the public's understanding on ethnic minorities?
- c. At the present stage, does the Government have any specific publicity programmes? If yes, please provide the relevant information by using the table below.

Programme	Responsible organisation	Target

Asked by: Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice

Reply:

Under Programme (4), the Administration will promote racial equality through enhanced publicity and public education in 2014-15. The Administration will co-operate with the Radio Television Hong Kong to produce a TV series and conduct a school outreach programme targeted at the general public and secondary school students respectively to help the public understand the cultures and customs of the ethnic minorities, overcome barriers and eliminate discrimination. The estimated provision for the above initiative is about \$3.35 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB136

(Question Serial No. 4284)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 35):

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention that promotion of the rights of children will be enhanced. Will the Government please advise on the following:

- a. In respect of the above work, what is the amount of allocation earmarked for the purpose?
- b. What is the Government's plan to enhance the promotion of the rights of children?
- c. At the present stage, does the Government have any specific plan? If yes, please provide the relevant information by using the table below.

Project	Responsible organisation	Target

Asked by: Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Administration will continue to promote children's rights through, inter alia, implementing the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme, organising the Children's Rights Forum, publicity activities and public education programmes, etc. The estimated provision for the above initiatives is about \$1.25 million.

2. In 2014-15, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will promote public awareness of the rights of children as enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child through activities funded under the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme and organised by non-government organisations. The relevant projects are set out at the Annex.

**Activities funded under the Children's Rights Education Funding Scheme
of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau in 2014-15**

Project	Responsible Organisation	Target
童體驗童權*	St. Charles School	Children
「權利【童】學會」兒童權利推廣計劃*	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong Jockey Club Cheung Hang Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	Children, parents and members of the community
Children's Rights 2014	Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong Hin Keng Centre	Children and members of the community
Small eyes look at Hong Kong	Pentecostal Church of Hong Kong Nam Cheong Nursery School	Children
Shall We Play	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong Jockey Club Yau Tong Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	Children and members of the community
Family Day Camp: Understanding United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child	Hong Kong Association of the Deaf	Children and parents
Deaf Children's Rights Leadership Scheme and Sign Language Promotion of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child	Hong Kong Association of the Deaf	Children and parents
Children's rights in our community	Jockey Club Wah Ming Lutheran Integrated Service Centre	Children and members of the community
CHILDREAM	St. Stephen's Girls' College	Children
童聲 X G30 高峰之旅*	Hong Kong Children & Youth Services Jockey Club Fanling Integrated Children & Youth Services Centre	Children
“Participation and Development” Children's Rights Ambassadors	Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong Shek Kip Mei Centre	Children
小眼睛，大世界—兒童權利推廣計劃*	Hong Kong New Arrivals Services Foundation Limited	Children and parents

Project	Responsible Organisation	Target
To be a Legislative Councillor	New Home Association New Territories East Service Centre	Children and members of the community
A Scheme of Little Author	Holy Cross Lutheran School	Children
「童」看權利—「童」攜手齊發「聲」計劃*	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong Jockey Club Sau Mau Ping Integrated Children and Youth Services Centre	Children and members of the community
“Children’s Stories” Children’s Rights Education Project	ELCHK Tai Wo Integrated Youth Service Centre	Children and members of the community
兒童動「喜」來*	Yan Oi Tong Community Centre	Children and members of the community
Different points of view from children	Hong Kong - Macao Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Shan King Integrated Children and Youth Services Centre of Seventh-day Adventists	Children
“Children’s Rights Uprising” Children’s Rights Education Project	Hong Kong Women Development Association Limited	Children
“Care who we are, Hear what we deliver.” Project of children rights in society involvement activity	Hong Kong Christian Service Central Nursery School	Children, parents and members of the community
「深。愛」兒童權利推廣計劃*	Sham Ching Youth Association Limited	Children
「童心童真」兒童權利創意明信片設計比賽*	The Hong Kong Institute of Education Alumni Association	Children
Drawing Rainbow - Child’s Rights Creative Project	Neighbourhood & Worker’s Education Centre Tin Shui Wai Women Integrated Service Centre	Children, parents and members of the community
〈兒童要有 SAY!〉兒童權利推廣計劃*	Chai Wan Kok Catholic Primary School	Children
Children Voice and Creation - Children's Rights Project 2014	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service	Children and members of the community
Children First	Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong Tuen Mun Centre	Children

Project	Responsible Organisation	Target
“Share the Happiness” Children's Rights Promotion Scheme	Asbury Methodist Social Service	Children and parents
Seize the Rights, Make the Fun	The Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs Association of Hong Kong Jockey Club Ma On Shan Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	Children and parents
Child in my Heart	Hong Kong Evangelical Church Yan Lam Community Centre	Children and members of the community
Children’s Council 2014	Against Child Abuse Limited	Children
Junior Chief Executive	The Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs Association of Hong Kong	Children
“WE SAY YES!” 2014 Children Leadership Training Program: Hong Kong Children’s Rights Summit	Roundtable Community Limited	Children
Children District Councilors	The Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs Association of Hong Kong Jockey Club South Kwai Chung Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre	Children and members of the community
Child · Fun Campaign	Kowloon Federation of Associations Youth Volunteer Group	Children
Potential Advancement Training Project	Hong Kong Young Women’s Christian Association	Children

* English names of the projects are not available.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB137

(Question Serial No. 4285)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 38):

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention of this Programme, it is mentioned that the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will promote the strengths of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan. Would the Government advise on the following:

- a. What is the amount of funding set aside for the promotion work? Would the Government give details about how it will promote the strengths of Hong Kong to the public in the Mainland and Taiwan through public relations functions and cultural events?
- b. Moreover, what are the plans of the Government in promoting such public relations functions and cultural events? If there are such plans, please set out relevant details in the table below:

Function/Event	To Organise/ Participate in	Host City/District	Target

Asked by: Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice

Reply:

The Mainland and Taiwan Offices (namely the Beijing Office, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan, as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan) serve as important bridges between Hong Kong and the Mainland/Taiwan. Their major responsibilities include enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts in the areas under their coverage; representing and promoting Hong Kong's trade and commercial interests; encouraging and attracting investments to Hong Kong; promoting Hong Kong's many advantages as an investment and business hub in Asia; and promoting the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels. These channels include attending meetings and calling on the Mainland/Taiwan counterparts; organising/participating in seminars, exhibitions and workshops; organising/participating in public relations functions and cultural exchange events; giving public speeches, media interviews and briefings; and issuing circulars, newsletters and press releases to showcase the positive image and attractions of Hong Kong in the Mainland and Taiwan. As the related work is an integral part of the duties and functions of the Mainland and Taiwan Offices, the estimated expenditure involved cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

2. In 2014-15, the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will continue to promote the strengths of Hong Kong through appropriate channels, including the following public relations functions and cultural events:

- (a) producing thematic video programmes to promote Hong Kong's arts and culture;
- (b) supporting Hong Kong organisations in launching book fairs, film exhibitions and philharmonic orchestra performances in the Mainland;
- (c) co-operating with Mainland radio stations to launch programmes promoting Hong Kong's positive image; and
- (d) organising a series of talks on Hong Kong culture in Taiwan to promote cultural exchanges between the two places, and co-organising with the city and county authorities in Taiwan cultural activities to promote Hong Kong's unique culture and image.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB138

(Question Serial No. 4286)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 48):

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in this Programme that the Mainland and Taiwan Offices will collate practical and useful information and disseminate the information to Hong Kong people living in the Mainland and Taiwan. Will the Government advise on the following:

- a. What information will be provided to Hong Kong people living in the Mainland and Taiwan by the Offices? Please give a detailed account of the information?
- b. Through what channels will the Offices disseminate the relevant information?
- c. Have criteria been developed to measure the performance in respect of the work on providing assistance or support to Hong Kong residents living in the Mainland or Taiwan?

Asked by: Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice

Reply:

The major responsibilities of the Beijing Office and the 4 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan (Mainland Offices) as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO) include supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, promoting economic and trade relations, enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts under their geographical coverage, promoting co-operation between Hong Kong and the service area, promoting Hong Kong, etc.

2. On supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, the Mainland Offices and HKETCO collect practical information such as medical care, education, legal

services etc., and disseminate such information through production of information booklets and the offices' websites to assist Hong Kong residents to adapt to living in the area.

3. In 2014-15, the Mainland Offices and HKETCO will continue to provide practical information to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland and Taiwan. As the work involved is an integral part of the functions of the Mainland Offices and HKETCO, the aforementioned work has been covered by performance indicators under "Promotion of Strengths of Hong Kong" and "Immigration-related Matters" in Programme (3) "Mainland and Taiwan Offices".

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 4292)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 72):

It is set out in Matters Requiring Special Attention under this Programme that anti-sexual harassment campaigns targeting the education and business sectors will be conducted and the Code of Practice on Employment under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance will be reviewed. Will the Government give an account of the campaign? Also, will the Government advise on the specific plan for reviewing the Code of Practice, such as the direction of review?

Asked by: Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice

Reply:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) has been organising a number of training programmes on preventing sexual harassment over the years. In 2003, the EOC's Policy and Research Committee set up a Working Group on Anti-Sexual Harassment Campaign (Working Group). The Working Group has conducted a series of questionnaire surveys, workshops and seminars targeting the education and business sectors to understand the prevalence of sexual harassment in these sectors, promote greater awareness of sexual harassment among school management, teachers and students, as well as employers and employees, and assist them in formulating sexual harassment policies in schools and corporations to improve the handling of sexual harassment issues and hence achieving the purpose of preventing sexual harassment.

2. With regard to the education sector, the EOC has completed a survey entitled "Sexual Harassment – Questionnaire Survey for Education Sector" in 2013 and has conducted a series of promotion and training programmes including compiling the Framework for Sexual Harassment Policies in Schools and organising seminars, workshops and training courses. In 2014-15, the EOC will conduct a follow-up questionnaire survey to see if there is any improvement in the formulation of sexual harassment policies in primary and secondary schools. Besides, it will

continue to provide training for schools to promote greater awareness of the education sector on the prevention and handling of sexual harassment issues, as well as publicise relevant messages through publications of the teachers' unions to increase the education workers' understanding of sexual harassment issues.

3. With regard to the business sector, the EOC has carried out a survey entitled "Sexual Harassment – Questionnaire Survey for Business Sector" in 2013. It has also prepared the Framework for Corporate Policy on Sexual Harassment and organised related workshops to raise the awareness of employers and management of corporations on sexual harassment. The Working Group has proposed conducting surveys on service industries to study the prevalence of sexual harassment in various service industries of which employees are susceptible to sexual harassment. Following the questionnaire survey on sexual harassment experienced by flight attendants, the EOC will, in 2014-15, conduct questionnaire surveys targeted at employees of other service industries (including healthcare, catering and retail industries) and conduct similar survey for foreign domestic helpers in Hong Kong.

4. The EOC is reviewing the Code of Practice on Employment under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance and the initial draft report is expected to be completed by the end of 2014. The preliminary work of the review will be absorbed within the EOC's internal resources. After completion of the preliminary work, stakeholders and the public will be consulted. The estimated expenditure involved is unavailable for the time being.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB140

(Question Serial No. 4395)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 109):

In connection with the provision of public information and gathering of public opinions by means of the Internet, please advise on the following:

- (a) the information regarding the social media platforms set up and operated by your bureau/departments/public bodies or their agents (such as out-sourced contractors or consultants) for the past year in tabulated form (see Annex 1).

Commence- ment of operation (Month/ Year)	Status (keep updating/ ceased updating) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ Linked In/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establish- ment and no. of updates (as at 31 January 2014)	No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits (as at 31 January 2014)	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 31 January 2014)	Financial resources involved in the establish- ment and daily operation (as at 31 January 2014)
			(1)...	(1)...					
			(2)...	(2)...					
			(3)...	(3)...					

- (b) whether the "Guidelines on the Use of Social Media" available on Government intranet give instructions to your department on the ceilings on expenditure for using social media or web-based platforms, such as registration fees, advertising expenditure and

value-added services. If yes, what are the details? If not, will the guidelines be revised to set out the reasonable level of expenditure for the use of social media?

- (c) In recent years, governments around the world have introduced systems through which citizens may hand in their online proposals. They have also undertaken that they will give a formal online response if a certain number of citizens have indicated their support to the proposals. Has the Administration examined ways to improve the existing channels for collecting public opinions on the Internet and evaluate the feasibility of using the above system for collecting online proposals? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

- (a) Information on the social media platforms set up and operated by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) and its subvented bodies in the past year (2013-14) is provided at the Annex. The Registration and Electoral Office (REO), which is under the purview of CMAB, did not set up or operate any social media platform in the past financial year.
- (b) On using social media, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) provides technical advice and support to bureaux and departments through the provision of information security and other general guidelines for their reference, including setting up a thematic webpage to share information as well as tips on the use of social media. CMAB as well as the department and subvented bodies under its purview will use appropriate social media or web-based platforms according to operational needs and having regard to the OGCIO guidelines. If expenditure is incurred, we will ensure that public funds are properly spent.
- (c) We will continue to observe the development of systems for collecting public opinions on the Internet and public reactions, so as to consider the need or otherwise for such systems as appropriate.

Information on the Social Media Platforms set up and operated by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau and its subvented bodies for the past year (2013-14)
(as at 31 January 2014, if applicable)

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)	Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates	No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation
February 2008	Regular updating	Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC)	EOC YouTube Channel	YouTube	To make use of social media to upload videos to promote equal opportunities. A total of 222 videos under 5 categories have been uploaded. Regular updating at least monthly. Last update in February 2014.	Number of subscribers : 205 Average number of visits per month: 4 260	No	1 Equal Opportunities Officer	Internally absorbed

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)	Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates	No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation
January 2011	Regular updating	EOC	EOC Facebook page for Uniquely Me	Facebook	To make use of social media to promote youth mentorship programme for ethnic minorities, Uniquely Me. Regular updating at least monthly. Last update in February 2014.	Number of subscribers : 400	No	1 Equal Opportunities Officer	Internally absorbed
May 2011	Regular updating	EOC	EOC Facebook page for Career Challenge	Facebook	To make use of social media to promote youth mentorship programme for youth, Career Challenge. Regular updating at least monthly. Last update in March 2014.	Number of subscribers : 621	No	1 Equal Opportunities Officer	Internally absorbed

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)	Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates	No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation
March 2012	Regular updating	The Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD)	Student Ambassador Programme	Facebook	To publish the latest update on the Student Ambassador Programme. Weekly updating on average. A total of 92 posts have been issued.	Number of "Likes" : 124	Yes	1 Corporate Communications Executive	Internally absorbed
April 2013	Update as necessary	PCPD	PCPD YouTube Channel	YouTube	To make use of videos to provide information on online privacy protection and school educational resources. A total of 75 videos have been uploaded.	Average number of visits per month: 690	Yes	1 Corporate Communications Executive	Internally absorbed

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)	Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates	No. of “Likes”/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation
September 2013	Update as necessary	The Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan	Hong Kong Week in Taiwan	Facebook	To promote “Hong Kong Week 2013”. A total of 115 articles have been published.	Number of “Likes” : 3 164	No	1 Senior Information Officer	Internally absorbed
December 2013	Update as necessary	Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB)	Public consultation on universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and the 2016 Legislative Council electoral method	YouTube	To make use of videos to promote the public consultation on constitutional reform and provide the public with information on constitutional development. As at 10 March, a total of 20 videos have been uploaded.	Average number of visits per month: 11 124	Yes	1 Project Officer	Internally absorbed

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep updating/ ceased updating)	Policy Bureau/ Subvented Body	Name	Social media (Facebook/ Flickr/ Google+/ LinkedIn/ Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates	No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and no. of officers responsible for the operation	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation
December 2013	Update as necessary	CMAB	Public consultation on universal suffrage for the Chief Executive election in 2017 and the 2016 Legislative Council electoral method	Facebook	To provide the public with the latest updates on the public consultation on constitutional reform and information on constitutional development, as well as to gather views of netizens on the public consultation on constitutional reform. As at 10 March, a total of 108 updates have been made.	Number of "Likes" : 3 297 Average number of visits per month: 314 587 (post impressions)	Yes	1 Project Officer	Internally absorbed

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB141

(Question Serial No. 6184)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 121):

Regarding official entertainment expenses of the Bureau and its department, will the Administration inform this Committee of:

(1) the number of exceptions where official entertainment expenses of public officers for lunch and dinner exceeded the respective ceilings per head, the number of exceptions with approval of directorate officers, the exceeded amounts and the reasons for the excess over the past 3 years? Please provide the information by bureau/department/public organisation, etc.

(2) the number of non-compliance with the guidelines on the bestowal of gifts or souvenirs by public officers during the conduct of official activities, and the number of and reasons for exceptions with approval of directorate officers over the past 3 years? Please provide the information by bureau/department/public organisation, etc.

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

The Civil Service Regulations (CSRs) set out the principles, rules and approval procedures relating to official entertainment. Heads of Departments have the delegated authority to authorise expenditures from the departmental entertainment vote. In addition, according to the existing guidelines, the expenditure limits on entertainment in the form of official meals should not exceed \$450 per person for lunch or \$600 per person for dinner, inclusive of all expenses incurred on food and beverages consumed on the occasion, service charges and tips. Government officers are required to exercise prudent judgement and economy when entertaining guest(s) for official purposes in order to avoid any public perception of extravagance. Where there are sufficient justifications for exceeding the expenditure limits, departments are required to consider those applications according to the established mechanism

and to document properly the detailed justifications for granting such approval.

2. In line with the Government's green policy, public officers should as far as possible refrain from bestowing gifts/souvenirs to others during the conduct of official activities. According to the existing guidelines, where bestowal of gifts/souvenirs is necessary or unavoidable due to operational, protocol or other reasons, the gift/souvenir items should not be lavish or extravagant and the number should be kept to a minimum. Also, the exchange of gifts/souvenirs should only be made from organisation to organisation.

3. Over the past three years, no officer in the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) and the Registration and Electoral Office, which is under CMAB's purview, was subject to disciplinary action for alleged contravention of the CSRs or other government requirements in relation to claiming reimbursement of entertainment expenses or offering gifts/souvenirs.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6205)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 161):

The Government has announced that it would make all government information released for public consumption machine-readable in digital formats. In respect of this,

(1) Please provide in the table below details of the government information to be released for public consumption by your Bureau/Department.

Bureau/ Department	Information items that can be released for public consumption	Description of the information	Period of the information	Is the information released in digital formats currently and date of release	If not, will it be converted into digital formats	Digital format already/planned to be used (please choose)			
						Machine-readable, non-proprietary formats (e.g. CSV)	Machine-readable, proprietary formats (e.g. MS Excel, Word)	Non-Machine-readable formats (e.g. JPG, PDF, PNG)	Open-standard formats (e.g. XML)

(2) Would the Administration indicate the manpower and expenditure involved for releasing government information for public consumption in 2014-15? Will more resources and manpower be provided to your Bureau/Department for handling this task so that the plan can be more effectively implemented?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) has been providing information for public inspection through the Bureau's website. The information provided includes, inter alia, consultation papers and summaries, publications and press releases, Legislative Council business and various topical issues. The information is prepared in the format of PDF, HTML, DOC, JPG, etc. Given the wide range and large quantity of information released for public inspection, we cannot list out the information in detail and exhaustively.

2. Handling information for public consumption is an integral part of the daily work of the CMAB officers. In 2014-15, this task will continue to be undertaken by our existing manpower and no additional expenditure will be involved.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6215)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: No Specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 188):

Regarding the Bureau's expenditure on the procurement of computer software and hardware, could the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) Does the Administration have any standard internal procurement guidelines which set out the criteria for the purchase or renew of computer software and hardware for the Bureau? If yes, what are the details? Do the guidelines require that the Bureau must renew its computer software and hardware in a timely manner?
- (2) Given that Microsoft, a computer software and hardware provider, will terminate support services for its Windows XP operation system, please provide the respective number of computers in the Bureau which are installed with (i) Microsoft Windows XP operating system; (ii) other operating systems launched before 2001 by Microsoft; and (iii) other operating systems (please specify the version), as well as the respective percentage of the number of computers of the above 3 types against the total number of computers in the Bureau. Does the Bureau have any plan to renew the outdated versions of the above operating systems?
- (3) What are the expenditure on and criteria for the procurement of tablet computers by the Bureau? What are the models and the work purposes of these tablet computers? Is there any confidential information stored in these tablet computers? If yes, what are the details? Is there any information security software installed in the tablet computers used by the Bureau? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

- (1) The Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) will formulate information technology (IT) project portfolio and plan for related IT projects so as to ensure that these IT projects can practically and effectively meet the business needs and operational arrangements of the Bureau. With regard to the planning for IT replacement projects, CMAB is required to examine and assess various potential risks and devise associated mitigation measures. From the technology perspective, the potential risks that should be taken into consideration include product compatibility, maintenance and support, replacement products for ensuring continuity and availability of market supply. In procuring or replacing computer hardware and software, CMAB will follow the government procurement guidelines to make the most cost-effective purchase through open and fair competition, and take into account the importance and priority of the IT projects.
- (2) With respect to the version of computer operating systems, the relevant information is provided below-
 - (i) Given that Microsoft, the computer software and hardware provider, will terminate support services for its Windows XP operating system, CMAB is replacing all relevant computer software with Windows 7. The replacement exercise will be completed by 31 March 2014.
 - (ii) CMAB is not using any operating system launched by Microsoft before 2001.
 - (iii) CMAB is not using any other outdated version of operating systems.
- (3) In procuring tablet computers, CMAB follows the government procurement guidelines to make the most cost-effective purchase through open and fair competition. The tablet computers procured are mainly used to support and improve the Bureau's internal operations including sending and receiving emails, short message service, calendaring and Internet browsing.

In accordance with the guidelines issued by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO), CMAB will not store confidential information in the tablet computers. We have, in accordance with the OGCIO guidelines, deployed mobile device management solutions and taken appropriate security measures, such as enabling the password lock on mobile devices, wiping device data after a specific number of failed login attempts, etc. Since the expenditure for installing information security software in tablet computers is normally included in the procurement cost, we do not have the breakdown on such expenditure.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6235)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 61):

The increasing use of information technology has allowed service providers or other related persons to obtain a lot of personal data. What measures will be taken by the Administration to prevent unscrupulous people from selling or using the personal data obtained? How many related cases were received last year and in what ways were they handled? Please advise on the manpower and provision allocated for handling such cases. What specific measures will be taken by the Administration to promote public awareness of the importance of protecting personal data to reduce the risk of leakage of important data? What are the relevant manpower provision and intended results?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

Section 64 of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (the Ordinance) provides that a person commits an offence if the person discloses any personal data of a data subject which was obtained from a data user without the data user's consent, with an intent to obtain gain in money or other property or to cause loss in money or other property to the data subject, or the disclosure causes psychological harm to the data subject, and is liable to a maximum penalty of a fine of \$1,000,000 and imprisonment for 5 years. The Ordinance also provides that a person commits an offence if the person sells personal data of a data subject to third parties for use in direct marketing without the data subject's consent, and is liable to a maximum penalty of a fine of \$1,000,000 and imprisonment for 5 years. In addition, Data Protection Principle 4 provides that all practicable steps shall be taken to ensure that the personal data held by a data user is protected against unauthorised or accidental access, processing, erasure, loss or use.

2. In 2013, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) received a

total of 6 complaint cases about unauthorised sale of personal data, and another 10 complaint cases involving the failure of telecommunications service providers or information technology sector to take all practicable steps, resulting in access to, processing or use of / possible access to, processing or use of customers' personal data by unscrupulous people. Among these 16 cases, 5 complainants had not responded to enquiries from PCPD, 2 complainants were not the data subjects concerned, 1 complainant withdrew the complaint, 1 complainant merely requested the PCPD to relay his concern to the organisation being complained against, 4 cases were found to have no prima facie evidence or to be unsubstantiated, 1 case was resolved through mediation, 1 case related to suspected contravention of provision regulating direct marketing and was referred to the Police for criminal investigation and prosecution, and 1 case is still under investigation.

3. A breakdown of the expenditure incurred for handling such cases is not available from the PCPD.

4. The PCPD plans to conduct promotion, publicity and education activities in 2014-15 to raise the awareness of the public, the relevant sectors/industries on protection of personal data. Major activities include:

- (a) professional workshops on personal data protection – a series of professional workshops tailored for the needs of professionals in different fields dealing with personal data;
- (b) free seminars introducing the Ordinance and seminars on privacy concerns arising from the use of information technology for members of the public;
- (c) with respect to privacy issues associated with the increased use of mobile applications, partnering with relevant professional bodies to provide training courses and simple guides to mobile applications developers;
- (d) Privacy Awareness Week 2014 – an annual regional promotional event;
- (e) Student Ambassador Programme – a learning opportunity provided for secondary school students to foster a culture of respect for personal data privacy;
- (f) University Privacy Days – on-campus promotion of privacy protection to staff and students of the universities in Hong Kong;
- (g) activities for Data Protection Officers' Club members, including regular meetings, introductory talks and seminars;
- (h) revamping the landing page and content of PCPD's website, strengthening the content of the thematic websites "Think Privacy! Be Smart Online" and the "Youth Privacy Portal" launched last year; and
- (i) disseminating the messages of online privacy protection and smart use of smartphones through various channels, including exhibition roadshow, the mass media, Youtube channel and Facebook page.

5. The PCPD has set aside \$2.13 million for the above promotion, publicity and education activities. As far as manpower is concerned, since organising these activities is part of the duties of the Corporate Communications Division of the PCPD, a breakdown of the manpower provision incurred is not available from the PCPD.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB145

(Question Serial No. 6236)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 62):

Regarding the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (the Ordinance), will the Administration provide the following information.

(1) The number of complaints or reports received since the provisions on direct marketing came into operation in April last year, the number of successful prosecutions, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved in handling the above cases.

(2) Given the increasing prevalence of mobile applications, has the Administration received complaints about the use of personal data collected by mobile application developers for other purposes? What follow-up actions have been taken by the Administration and whether additional expenditure is involved?

(3) Does the Administration have any plans to increase resources for promoting the protection of personal data privacy in the use of mobile applications? If yes, what are the specific initiatives and the related expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

(1)

Since the provisions regulating the use of personal data in direct marketing in the Ordinance came into operation on 1 April 2013, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) has, as at 28 February 2014, received a total of 513 related complaints, of which 12 cases have been referred to the Police for consideration of prosecution. No conviction

is recorded for the time being. A breakdown of the manpower and expenditure incurred for handling such cases is not available from PCPD.

(2)

2. As at 28 February 2014, PCPD has not received any complaint about the use of personal data collected by mobile application developers for other purposes.

(3)

3. In 2014-15, PCPD will take the following measures to improve protection of personal data privacy in the use of mobile applications with its existing resources and manpower:

- (a) organising more talks to share with members of the public how to protect their personal data privacy when using mobile applications;
- (b) disseminating educational messages through strengthening the content of the thematic websites “Think Privacy! Be Smart Online” and the “Youth Privacy Portal”;
- (c) organising talks/seminars for the mobile applications development industry (the industry) to enhance their knowledge on personal data privacy protection;
- (d) collaborating with the industry to develop more practical guidance on compliance with provisions in the Ordinance;
- (e) continuing to conduct random checks on mobile applications to ascertain the availability, accessibility and readability of privacy policy, and taking enforcement actions as appropriate; and
- (f) co-operating with other privacy protection authorities through sharing of views, intelligence and knowledge, to facilitate PCPD to keep abreast of latest developments on mobile applications and the implications on personal data privacy protection.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6549)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 150):

In respect of the public relations expenses of various government departments in the past year, please inform this Committee of:

(1) The expenses the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau spent on advertisements on mainstream or online media as well as the relevant details in table form (please see Annex 1):

Published / Broadcasted Time (Month / Year)	Status (one-off / ongoing / completed) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government or Public Organisation (including policy bureau/ department / public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of Advertisement	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station / TV station / advertising panel/ car wrap advertising / website, etc)	Purpose and Frequency of the Advertisement (as at 31 January 2014)	Rank and No. of Responsible Officers (as at 31 January 2014)	Financial Resources for the Expenses Involved (as at 31 January 2014)
			(1)...	(1)...			
			(2)...	(2)...			
			(3)...	(3)...			

(2) The expenses the Bureau spent on sponsoring media to provide programmes or materials as well as the relevant details (please see Annex 2):

Programme/ Materials Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/ Year)	Status (one-off / ongoing/ completed) (as at 31 January 2014)	Sponsoring Government or Public Organisation (including policy bureau/ department / public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of Programme/ Materials	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ website, etc)	Purpose and Frequency of the Sponsorship (as at 31 January 2014)	Rank and No. of Responsible Officers (as at 31 January 2014)	Expenses (as at 31 January 2014)
			(1)...	(1)...			
			(2)...	(2)...			
			(3)...	(3)...			

(3) The expenses on and details of the Advertorial of the Bureau (please see Annex 3):

Programme/ Materials Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/ Year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing / completed) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government Organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of Programme / Materials	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ website, etc)	Purpose and Frequency of the Programme/ Materials (as at 31 January 2014)	Rank and No. of Responsible Officers (as at 31 January 2014)	Non- government organisation/ Personnel Responsible for Writing Advertisement Script (if any)	Expenses (as at 31 January 2014)
			(1)...	(1)...				
			(2)...	(2)...				
			(3)...	(3)...				

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

In respect of public relations expenses of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) as well as the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) and subvented bodies under CMAB's purview in 2013-14 (as at 31 January 2014), the relevant information is provided below -

(1) The expenses on and details of advertisements on mainstream or online media are as follows -

Published / Broadcasted Time (Month / Year)	Status	Policy Bureau/ Department / Subvented Body	Name of Advertisement	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media	Purpose and Frequency of the Advertisement	Rank and No. of Responsible Officers	Expenses (\$)
April 2013 to January 2014	Some are one-off and some are on-going	Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public consultation on methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 • Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme 2013-14 • Eliminate Discrimination, Embrace Inclusion, Regardless of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity • Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation • Code on Access to Information • Basic Law Carnival 2013 • Promotion of Basic Law online game entitled “Back to the Basic Law – Building a better future” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • newspapers • publications • television stations • advertising panels • vehicle wrap advertising • MTR stations and compartments • banners in government venues/ premises • websites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To introduce to the public the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislation Council in 2016 and encourage the public to put forth their views • To announce the invitation of application under the funding scheme • To promote equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientation and transgenders • To promote the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation • To promote the Code on Access to Information • To publicise the Basic Law Carnival 2013 • To promote Basic Law <p style="text-align: center;">(The above advertisements were published/broadcasted in different periods.)</p>	1-3 officers of rank not lower than Executive Officer II or equivalent were responsible for each of the advertisements	A total of about 3.95 million

Published / Broadcasted Time (Month / Year)	Status	Policy Bureau/ Department / Subvented Body	Name of Advertisement	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media	Purpose and Frequency of the Advertisement	Rank and No. of Responsible Officers	Expenses (\$)
April to July 2013	Completed	Registration and Electoral Office (REO)	Voter Registration Campaign 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • newspapers • radio stations • television stations • websites 	<p>To draw the public's attention to information relating to voter registration so as to encourage eligible persons to register as voters, and remind registered electors to notify the REO of their change of residential addresses in a timely manner</p> <p>(Published/broadcasted in different periods.)</p>	4 officers of rank not lower than Executive Officer I or equivalent	About 2.78 million
April to December 2013	Completed	Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think Privacy! Be Smart Online • Have My Say On Personal Data Protection • Are You Ready for the New Regulatory Regime on Data Protection in Direct Marketing • It is Your Choice to Accept Direct Marketing. You Can Opt Out Anytime. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • newspapers • publications • television stations • website • mobile phone application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enhance public awareness of online privacy and encourage visits to the webpage of "Think Privacy! Be Smart Online" • To help the public understand protection of privacy in daily life • To help the public/ organisations understand the new provisions of direct marketing under the Personal Data (Privacy) (Amendment) Ordinance 2012 <p>(The above advertisements were published/broadcasted in different periods.)</p>	1 Manager (Corporate Communications) and 1 Corporate Communications Executive	A total of about 360,000
April 2013	Completed	Equal Opportunities Commission	To promote the messages of family-friendly employment policies and preventing pregnancy discrimination and sexual harassment	Light boxes of bus stops	<p>To promote the messages of family-friendly employment policies and preventing pregnancy discrimination and sexual harassment</p> <p>(Published/broadcasted once)</p>	1 Senior Corporate Communications Officer	About 50,000

(2) The expenses on and details of sponsoring media to provide programmes or materials are as follows -

Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/ Year)	Status	Sponsoring Policy Bureau/ Department / Subvented Body	Name of Programme/ Materials	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media	Purpose and Frequency of the Sponsorship	Rank and No. of Responsible Officers	Expenses (\$)
March 2014	Completed	Equal Opportunities Commission	To promote the message of International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination 2014	Radio station	To promote the message of International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination 2014 (Published/broadcasted once)	1 Senior Corporate Communications Officer	About 140,000

(3) CMAB as well as REO and the subvented bodies under CMAB's purview did not incur any expense on Advertorials in 2013-14.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6562)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 60):

The public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 has commenced at the end of last year. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) What are the amount of consultation document, flyers and posters printed and the expenses incurred? What is the difference in the amount printed comparing to that for the public consultation on constitutional development in 2010?
- (2) Has any consultant or non-governmental organisation (NGO) been engaged or invited for public engagement and promotion of the public consultation? If yes, what are the relevant manpower and expenditure involved?
- (3) What is the expenditure for the website set up for the public consultation (including design, maintenance, updating, etc.)? What is the rank of staff involved? Has any NGO participated in such work? If yes, what are the details, manpower and expenditure involved?
- (4) Regarding publicity for the public consultation, please give a breakdown on the relevant expenditure on production cost and advertising fee, the relevant use of sponsorship, if any, and the airtime for publicity. Please also provide the percentage of the above expenses against the total expenditure on the whole consultation exercise.

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

- (1) In 2013-14, we printed about 695 000 copies of consultation documents, flyers and posters for the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive (CE) in

2017 and for forming the Legislative Council (LegCo) in 2016. The expenses incurred were around \$860,000. In 2009-10, we printed about 103 000 copies of consultation documents, flyers and posters for the public consultation on the methods for selecting the CE and for forming the LegCo in 2012. The expenses incurred were around \$300,000.

(2) In 2013-14, no consultant or non-governmental organisation (NGO) was engaged or invited for the public engagement and promotion of the public consultation on the methods for selecting the CE in 2017 and for forming the LegCo in 2016.

(3) In 2013-14, the revised estimate for the public consultation on the methods for selecting the CE in 2017 and for forming the LegCo in 2016 is about \$7.2 million (excluding staff cost) and its breakdown is as follows:

	million (\$)
Printing	0.9
Publicity and consultation sessions	6.1
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.2
Total	7.2

The abovementioned \$200,000 expenditure on other items already includes the approximately \$100,000 used on the relevant website (including design, maintenance, updating, etc). The manpower involved included 1 Administrative Officer and 2 project officers. Relevant work was handled by a contractor selected by tender, and no NGO participated in the work concerned.

(4) As shown in the table in section (3) of the reply, in 2013-14, the publicity cost for the public consultation on the methods for selecting the CE in 2017 and for forming the LegCo in 2016 was about \$6.1 million, accounting for about 85% of the total cost (\$7.2 million) of the public consultation. The publicity cost includes the production costs for the television and radio Announcements in Public Interest, costs for advertising in MTR stations and train compartments, as well as on various websites. The purpose of the publicity work is to promote the public consultation and to encourage the public to express their views on the related issues. The publicity activities were held at different times during the public consultation period (i.e. from 4 December 2013 to 3 May 2014) and no sponsorship was involved.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB148

(Question Serial No. 6699)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 94):

Regarding the election of and method for forming the Legislative Council in 2016, will the Administration expand the electorate base of functional constituencies and review the membership of existing corporate voters? What are the content, timetable and estimated provision of, and manpower required for such plan?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

The HKSAR Government formally commenced the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 on 4 December 2013 to prepare for the "Five-step Process" of constitutional development. The 5-month consultation will end on 3 May 2014. At this stage, the Government will continue to listen to the views and suggestions from different sectors of the community and the public at large with an open, inclusive and pragmatic mind.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5497)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 55):

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15, the Equal Opportunity Commission says it will promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities. In this connection, will the Administration inform this Administration:

- a) the effectiveness of promoting equal opportunities in employment for ethnic minorities in each of the past 5 years in terms of success rate of ethnic minority job seekers registered with Labour Department for employment services to secure employment;
- b) the effectiveness of promoting equal opportunities in education for ethnic minorities in each of the past 5 years in terms of dropout rates of 16 through 24-year-olds, by sex; undergraduate enrollment rates and graduation rates among ethnic minorities; and
- c) the work plan and strategies to promote equal opportunities in education and employment for ethnic minorities for 2014, inclusive of the provision and manpower to be allocated.

Asked by: Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply:

- (a) As advised by the Labour Department (LD), job seekers who have registered with the LD for employment services may be placed into employment either through the referral services of the LD or by direct application to employers who advertise their vacancies at the LD. Currently, over 90% of the vacancies advertised through the LD are open for direct application by job seekers. Those who have found work through direct application are not required to report their placement positions to the LD, and hence statistics on cases where job seekers have secured employment through direct application to

employers are not available. In respect of the LD's referral services, the LD did not prepare separate statistics of ethnic minority job seekers who have found work through the referral services of the LD in 2009 and 2010. In 2011, 2012 and 2013, the number of ethnic minorities who registered with the LD for employment services was 901, 981 and 787 respectively. During the same period, 72, 61 and 57 placements were secured for ethnic minority job seekers through the referral services of the LD.

- (b) As advised by the Education Bureau (EDB), the Government is committed to supporting the early integration of non-Chinese speaking (NCS) students into the community, including facilitating their adaptation to the local education system and mastery of the Chinese Language. Pursuant to the revamp of the Primary One Admission system in 2005 for NCS students at the Central Allocation stage, NCS students may choose public sector primary schools in their residing school net on par with their local counterparts. To cater for the needs of some ethnic minority parents, they may also choose the 8 primary schools traditionally admitting more NCS students. In tandem, the EDB has put in place a series of support measures since the 2006/07 school year to help NCS students master the Chinese Language and integrate into the community. For NCS student dropouts aged between 16 and 24, the EDB will, upon receiving reports of such cases, assist them to resume schooling. In handling these cases, the EDB will not collect information on the students' ethnicity, and hence dropout rate of ethnic minority students aged between 16 and 24 is not available. Besides, starting from the 2008/09 school year, the Government has extended free education to include senior secondary education provided by public sector secondary schools. The number of NCS students studying at senior secondary levels in the past 5 years (i.e. 2009/10 to 2013/14 school years) is tabulated at the Annex.

According to the information provided by the University Grants Committee (UGC), the number of local NCS students (who are not of Chinese ethnicity and/or whose spoken language at home is not Chinese) admitted to the UGC-funded undergraduate programmes in the past 5 years (i.e. the 2009/10 to 2013/14 school years) was 92, 141, 145, 249 and 227 respectively. Statistics with breakdown by local and non-local NCS students are not available for self-financing undergraduate programmes.

- (c) According to EDB, as announced in the 2014 Policy Address, a provision of \$200 million has been earmarked per year to step up support for NCS students to facilitate their effective learning of the Chinese Language and create an inclusive learning environment in schools. Specifically, the EDB will, starting from the 2014/15 school year, provide the "Chinese Language Curriculum Second Language Learning Framework" ("Learning Framework") with supporting learning and teaching materials to help NCS students in primary and secondary schools overcome the difficulties in learning Chinese as a second language with a view to enabling them to bridge over to mainstream Chinese Language classes. Besides, an Applied Learning (Chinese Language) subject pegged at the Qualifications Framework Levels 1 to 3 will be provided by stages starting from the 2014/15 school year for NCS students with different aspirations at senior secondary levels to articulate under the multiple pathways. To facilitate schools' implementation of the "Learning Framework", the EDB will, starting from the 2014/15 school year, enhance the additional recurrent funding for schools admitting 10 or more NCS students to adopt appropriate teaching strategies, including

different intensive teaching and learning modes like pull-out teaching, split-class/group learning, after-school consolidation, etc. with a view to helping NCS students bridge over to mainstream Chinese Language classes, and to strengthen communication with NCS parents to motivate NCS students to learn Chinese. In tandem, schools admitting less than 10 NCS students may apply for additional funding, if necessary, to provide after-school support to reinforce their NCS students' learning of Chinese. Other complementary measures including teachers' professional development programmes to enhance teachers' professional capabilities in teaching Chinese as a second language and provision of enhanced school-based professional support to primary and secondary schools as well as kindergartens admitting NCS students are also in the pipeline. In the meantime, the EDB is consulting stakeholders about the implementation details and will finalise the details in April 2014.

On the part of the LD, continuous effort will be made to proactively help ethnic minority job seekers find work, and promote their working abilities to private sector organisations so as to enhance their employment opportunities. The LD will continue to set up special counters in the 12 job centres of the LD to provide job referral services for ethnic minorities; besides, tailor-made briefing will be organised by each job centre once every month to help ethnic minorities understand the local employment market situation and improve job search skills. Ethnic minorities can also meet the employment advisors to obtain advice and customised employment services. The LD will continue to canvass suitable vacancies for ethnic minority job seekers and organise large-scale and district-based job fairs to help them secure employment. The LD will also gauge the views of job seekers, including ethnic minority job seekers, on the employment services of the LD to ensure effectiveness in helping them find work. In 2014-15, 2 large-scale job fairs targeting ethnic minority job seekers and 9 district-based job fairs will be organised to help ethnic minorities find work. Expenditures for providing employment services to ethnic minorities and organising district-based job fairs will be absorbed in the operating costs of the LD, and hence no separate breakdown is identifiable. As for organisation of large-scale job fairs, the estimated expenditure for 2014-15 is \$0.36 million.

In addition, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) will set aside \$4.69 million in 2014-15 for conducting new public education and promotion programmes and studies to promote the messages of inclusion and diversity, fostering social integration and building a caring society. The EOC's preliminary plan is to set up an Ethnic Minority Taskforce which will liaise with relevant government bureaux, schools, stakeholders and service organisations, and will follow up with relevant government bureaux to enhance support for meeting the needs of ethnic minorities in education and employment.

Number of Non-Chinese Speaking (NCS) Students Studying at Senior Secondary Levels from the 2009/10 to 2013/14 School Years

Level	2009/10 school year	2010/11 school year	2011/12 school year	2012/13 school year	2013/14 school year
Senior Secondary (Note 4)	1 529	1 792	2 547	2 800	3 305

Note:

1. Figures refer to the position as at September of the respective school years.
2. The above data cover those students whose ethnicity is Chinese but who are non-Chinese speaking based on the spoken language at home.
3. Figures cover NCS students in public sector and Direct Subsidy Scheme secondary schools, but do not include students in special schools.
4. Figures for senior secondary level cover Secondary 4 to 7 in the 2009/10 to 2011/12 school years; and cover Secondary 4 to 6 in the 2012/13 and 2013/14 school years upon implementation of New Academic Structure in the 2012/13 school year.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB150

(Question Serial No. 3321)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 33):

Under the aim of this Programme, the Administration has mentioned that the Bureau will co-ordinate and oversee the implementation of government policies on the rights of the individual. Would the Government please advise on the following:

- a. Have government bureaux and departments ensured equal opportunities of different sexes, family statuses, races and sexual orientations for members of the public in the use of public services under the co-ordination and supervision of the Bureau?
- b. How will the Bureau oversee the implementation of the policies? What is the amount of expenditure involved?
- c. How many complaint cases involved the Race Discrimination Ordinance, the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Disability Discrimination Ordinance and the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance last year, and among them, how many cases involved government bureaux and departments?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is an independent statutory body responsible for the implementation of the Sex Discrimination Ordinance, the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance, the Race Discrimination Ordinance and the Disability Discrimination Ordinance to eliminate discrimination on the grounds of sex, family status, race and disability. All these ordinances bind the Government, and the Government is also committed to using its best endeavours to follow the best practices set out in the Code of Practice against Elimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation. Generally speaking, public services

currently provided by the Government are available to all members of the public irrespective of gender, family status, race or sexual orientation.

2. Implementation and review of the above ordinances are the responsibilities of the EOC. The estimated provision earmarked for the EOC in 2014-15 is \$101.4 million.

3. In 2013-14 (as at end of February 2014), the number of complaint cases relating to the above 4 anti-discrimination ordinances received by the EOC is set out below:

	Number of complaint cases	Number of cases in which government bureau/department is involved
Race Discrimination Ordinance	31	1
Sex Discrimination Ordinance	207	5
Disability Discrimination Ordinance	365	59
Family Status Discrimination Ordinance	21	3

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5762)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 37):

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15, it is mentioned that preparatory work will be undertaken to set up liaison units in the Northern and Eastern Regions of the Mainland to strengthen the work of the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai. Will the Government provide the following information:

- a. What are the details of the preparation work for the setting up of the liaison units?
- b. What are the funding and staff requirements of the preparatory work? How will the resources be allocated to prepare for the establishment of the 2 liaison units?
- c. Will the setting up of the liaison units affect the allocation of resources to other offices in Mainland and Taiwan?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

We plan to set up a liaison unit in the Northern Region of the Mainland, to be followed by another one in the Eastern Region in the coming two years to strengthen the work of the Beijing Office (BJO) and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai (Shanghai ETO).

2. Firstly, we intend to set up a liaison unit under BJO in the Northern Region this year. Having studied the matter, we consider that Shenyang City of Liaoning Province is the preferred location to set up the liaison unit, so as to facilitate Hong Kong residents and enterprises in capitalizing on the opportunities brought about by the rapid development of the Northeast Region.

3. As the next step, we plan to set up a liaison unit in the Eastern Region under Shanghai ETO next year. As the geographical coverage of the office will be adjusted upon the establishment of the Wuhan ETO, we will decide the location of the liaison unit in the Eastern Region in light of the new coverage at a later stage.

4. In 2014-15, we have set aside \$7.18 million under Programme (3) “Mainland and Taiwan Offices” for the establishment of a liaison unit each under BJO and Shanghai ETO, of which \$4.38 million is for meeting recurrent expenditure while \$2.8 million is for meeting the one-off setting up cost. The setting up of these 2 liaison units involve creation of 4 posts, namely 2 Senior Administrative Officer and 2 Trade Officer posts. The establishment of these 2 liaison units will not affect allocation of resources to the other Mainland Offices and the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5882)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 38):

Provision under this Programme is \$46 million (i.e. 22.4%) higher than that for the past financial year mainly due to increased provision for setting up a new Economic and Trade Office and taking forward preparatory work to set up liaison units to further enhance the functions of the Mainland Offices. In addition, there will be a net increase of 11 posts. Will the Administration provide the following information:

- a. In what ways was the provision used to support the existing functions of the Mainland Offices in the past? In what ways will the additional provision be used to continue enhancing the functions of the Mainland Offices?
- b. In respect of the net increase of 11 posts, does the Government expect changes in staff establishment this year? Which office(s) in the Mainland or Taiwan will be affected?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

The major responsibilities of the Beijing Office and the 3 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices (ETOs) in Guangdong, Shanghai and Chengdu (Mainland Offices) include supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, promoting economic and trade relations, strengthening liaison and communication with counterparts under their geographical coverage, promoting co-operation between Hong Kong and the service area, promoting Hong Kong, etc. In the past year, we have undertaken work to enhance the functions of the Mainland Offices, including setting up a new Immigration Division in Chengdu ETO, strengthening liaison with Hong Kong people and groups in the Mainland and providing them with information and assistance, conducting researches on national policies and disseminating related findings to facilitate Hong Kong residents and enterprises to seize development

opportunities, and enhancing communication and publicity (such as revamping websites, exhibitions and cultural performances, etc.) targeted at different sectors in the Mainland to promote the strengths of Hong Kong and foster mutual understanding and respect between Hong Kong and the Mainland. In 2014-15, the Mainland Offices will continue to take forward the above work. In addition, Wuhan ETO will commence operation in April 2014. We will also pursue the setting up of a liaison unit in the Northern Region this year, to be followed by another one in the Eastern Region of the Mainland next year to make the network of the Mainland Offices more comprehensive and provide better support to Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the Mainland.

2. In 2014-15, 11 new posts will be created under Programme (3) “Mainland and Taiwan Offices”. Details of the new posts are as follows:

- (i) 7 posts at the new ETO to be set up in Wuhan, namely 1 Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, 1 Senior Administrative Officer, 3 Trade Officer and 1 Senior Information Officer posts as well as 1 time-limited Executive Officer I posts; and
- (ii) 4 posts at the liaison units to be set up in the Northern Region and Eastern Region of the Mainland, namely 2 Senior Administrative Officer and 2 Trade Officer posts.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB153

(Question Serial No. 6155)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 80):

Under this programme, provision for 2014-15 is \$25.1 million higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14, which represents an increase of 24.3%. Will the Administration give a detailed explanation of the reasons, and set out, in table form, changes in expenditure for various initiatives?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

Under Programme (2) "Constitutional and Mainland Affairs", there is an increase of 24.3%, i.e. \$25.1 million, in the estimated provision for 2014-15 over the revised estimate for 2013-14. The additional provision is mainly for the following initiatives –

	Initiative	Approximate amount of additional provision (\$ million)
(1)	Public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 (excluding staff cost)	4.9
(2)	The 10 th Pan-Pearl River Delta Region Co-operation and Development Forum cum Trade Symposium (excluding staff cost)	7.1

	Initiative	Approximate amount of additional provision (\$ million)
(3)	Other constitutional and Mainland affairs and related work, for example, strengthening support for electoral affairs and operation of the Bureau	13.1

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6156)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 81):

Under this programme, the provision for 2014-15 is \$46 million higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14, which represents an increase of 22.4%. Will the Administration give a detailed explanation of the reasons, and set out, in table form, changes in expenditure for various items.

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

The provision for Programme (3) for 2014-15 is \$46 million (22.4%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14. The main factors are tabulated below:

	Item	Approximate Additional Provision (\$ Million)
(1)	Recurrent funding and one-off setting up cost for the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Wuhan to be set up in April 2014	27.8
(2)	Provision reserved for setting up a liaison unit each under the Beijing Office and the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Shanghai, including recurrent funding and one-off setting up cost	7.2
(3)	Full-year provision required for continuing to enhance the functions of the Mainland Offices and meeting increased staff cost for staff posted to the Mainland and Taiwan Offices	11.0

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6158)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 83):

In 2014-15, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will study the discrimination experienced by sexual minorities in Hong Kong. Will the Administration advise on the specific plan for the study, the scope it covers, the timetable for conducting the study, and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

On the advice of the Advisory Group on Eliminating Discrimination against Sexual Minorities, we have commissioned a consultant to conduct a study on discrimination experienced by sexual minorities (including homosexuals, bisexuals, transgenders, post-gays and people with other sexual orientation and gender identity) to look into whether sexual minorities are discriminated against in Hong Kong and, if so, the discrimination they experienced, including the domains and forms of discrimination, and how they responded to it. The study is still underway and is expected to be completed within this year. The consultancy fee is \$445,000.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB156

(Question Serial No. 6159)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 84):

In 2014-15, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will step up promotion of equal opportunities for people of different sexual orientations through various education and publicity measures. Will the Administration advise on the specific plan for such work, the scope it covers, the timetable for carrying out the work, and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

In 2014-15, we will continue to promote equal opportunities for sexual minorities through education and publicity, including organising various publicity and promotion programmes, sponsoring worthwhile community projects through the Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Funding Scheme, promoting the Code of Practice against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Sexual Orientation to public and private sector organisations, etc. The above work will be undertaken throughout the financial year and the estimated provision (including the staff cost of the Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit) is \$3.5 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 3303)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 55):

It is stated under this Programme that the Administration will collate practical and useful information and disseminate the information to Hong Kong people living in the Mainland and Taiwan. In this connection, please advise on the following:

1. the information dissemination system to be adopted, the expenses to be incurred and the manpower requirements;
2. whether a new information platform will be created in 2014-15 and whether manpower will be increased to facilitate more speedy dissemination of information. If so, please provide the relevant details, including the provision involved, the number of staff to be increased, the relevant posts to be created and the terms of employment involved. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

The major responsibilities of the Beijing Office and the 4 Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in Guangdong, Shanghai, Chengdu and Wuhan (Mainland Offices) as well as the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office in Taiwan (HKETCO) include supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, promoting economic and trade relations, enhancing liaison and communication with the counterparts under their geographical coverage, promoting co-operation between Hong Kong and the service area, promoting Hong Kong, etc.

2. On supporting Hong Kong residents and enterprises in the service area, the Mainland Offices and HKETCO collect practical information such as medical care, education, legal services etc., and disseminate such information through production of information booklets and

the offices' websites to assist Hong Kong residents to adapt to living in the area.

3. In 2014-15, the Mainland Offices and HKETCO will continue to provide practical information to Hong Kong residents in the Mainland and Taiwan. As the work involved is an integral part of the functions of the Mainland Offices and HKETCO, the estimated expenditure and manpower provision cannot be singled out and separately quantified.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB158

(Question Serial No. 3305)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs (CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 57):

What are the specific measures to be taken by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau to strengthen protection of personal data privacy in mobile applications? What are the details of the measures involved, the expenses to be incurred, the manpower required and the timetable for the implementation of the measures?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) will take the following measures to improve protection of personal data privacy in the use of mobile applications with existing resources and manpower:

	Measures	Implementation timetable
(a)	organising more talks to share with members of the public how to protect their personal data privacy when using mobile applications;	regularly in response to demand throughout the year
(b)	disseminating educational messages through strengthening the content of the thematic websites "Think Privacy! Be Smart Online" and the "Youth Privacy Portal";	throughout the year
(c)	organising talks/seminars for the mobile applications development industry (the industry) to	regularly in response to demand

	enhance their knowledge on personal data privacy protection;	throughout the year
(d)	collaborating with the industry to develop more practical guidance on compliance with provisions in the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance;	to be completed in the middle of the year
(e)	continuing to conduct random checks on mobile applications to ascertain the availability, accessibility and readability of privacy policy, and taking enforcement actions as appropriate; and	to be conducted in the middle of the year and results will be released in the third quarter
(f)	co-operating with other privacy protection authorities through sharing of views, intelligence and knowledge, to facilitate PCPD to keep abreast of latest developments on mobile applications and the implications on personal data privacy protection.	sharing on the Internet from time to time and through regular international/regional conferences

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB159

(Question Serial No. 4758)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 49):

Under this Programme, it is mentioned that the Administration will continue to carry out the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016. Would the Government advise on the following:

- a. What is the amount of expenditure involved for publicity (e.g. advertisement, public event, etc.) since the launch of the public consultation?
- b. Has the Government set aside provision for the publicity of the public consultation in 2014-15?
- c. Regarding the above publicity exercise, has the Government mapped out any plans for the coming year? If yes, please give details.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

- a. In 2013-14, the revised estimate for the public consultation on the methods for selecting the Chief Executive in 2017 and for forming the Legislative Council in 2016 is about \$7.2 million (excluding staff cost). The expenditure on publicity is about \$6.1 million. The breakdown of the related estimate is at Table 1.

Table 1

	million (\$)
Printing	0.9
Publicity and consultation sessions	6.1

Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.2
Total	7.2

b. In 2014-15, we have set aside about \$12 million (excluding staff cost) for the abovementioned public consultation. The expenditure on publicity is around \$8.5 million. The breakdown of the related estimate is at Table 2.

Table 2

	million (\$)
Printing	3.1
Publicity and consultation sessions	8.5
Others (including postage, delivery, website development and maintenance, etc.)	0.5
Total	12.1

c. At present, we do not have any detailed plan for related publicity work in 2014-15.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CMAB160

(Question Serial No. 4762)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 51):

Under Brief Description of this Programme, it is mentioned that the Administration will promote public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law. Would the Government advise us of the amount of provision set aside for the use of promotion? In addition, how does the Government plan to promote public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law? At the present stage, does the Government have any specific plans? If yes, please provide the relevant contents.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau (CMAB) will continue to set aside about \$16 million for organising various promotional activities to enhance public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law, including the importance of the Basic Law to Hong Kong's implementation of the principles of "One Country, Two Systems", "Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong" and high degree of autonomy. The focus of our promotional efforts this year will include constitutional development on the basis of the Basic Law.

2. We have been adopting the following 3 promotional strategies:
- (a) using electronic media targeted at the general public, such as Announcement in the Public Interest on television and radio, radio quiz programmes, Internet and smart-phone applications;
 - (b) enhancing public awareness and understanding of the Basic Law through promotional activities at the district level, such as roving exhibitions; and
 - (c) strengthening co-operation with community organisations in staging promotional

activities, such as seminars and debate competitions, in order to reach a wider audience through their extensive community networks.

3. Besides, the Government has been promoting the Basic Law through civic education, school education and training for civil servants. The Government has also set up the Basic Law Promotion Steering Committee (BLPSC) to provide necessary steer on the overall programme and strategy for promoting the Basic Law. Based on the steer of the BLPSC and its working groups (namely Local Community; Teachers and Students; Civil Servants; Industrial, Commercial and Professional Sectors; and Overseas Community Working Groups), relevant bureaux/departments, including the Home Affairs Bureau, Education Bureau, Civil Service Bureau, Trade and Industry Department and Information Services Department, assist in organising related Basic Law promotional activities in their respective sectors.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5251)

Head: (144) GS: Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
(2) Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(3) Mainland and Taiwan Offices
(4) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs
(CHANG King-yiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 27):

What is the estimate for the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau's duty visits or exchanges to the Mainland in 2014-15? What will be the themes for duty visits or exchanges to the Mainland planned for 2014-15? How does the Administration avoid engaging in activities not related to official business during duty visits? How does the Administration prevent application for changing the place of visit from becoming a mere formality?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

In 2014-15, officers of the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau will undertake official duty visits outside Hong Kong on the basis of operational need including promoting regional co-operation with the Mainland, enhancing further co-operation and exchanges with Macao and Taiwan, and participating in concerned meetings. We do not have any specific plan for the time being.

2. Official duty visits, if publicly funded, are subject to control under relevant regulations and guidelines to ensure effective monitoring and proper use of public funds. Relevant control measures include, inter alia, all duty visits undertaken should be well justified on operational grounds; proper prior approval is necessary and non-official elements should be avoided. In making an application, an officer should provide all necessary information in respect of the proposed duty visit as far as practicable. Where subsequent changes become necessary, an officer should as soon as practicable inform the approving authority who should re-assess whether there is a need to consider the application afresh.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 4357)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 56):

In preparation for the District Council ordinary election in the coming year, an additional provision of \$180 million has been earmarked in the 2014-15 financial year for the Registration and Electoral Office where 75 posts would be created to undertake election-related duties. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the work nature and the ranks involved in the abovementioned 75 posts?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

Provision for the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) for 2014-15 is \$185.9 million higher than 2013-14. This is mainly due to preparation for the 2015 District Council (DC) ordinary election, including amendments to relevant electoral legislation, delineation of 2015 DC constituency areas, review and updating of guidelines on election-related activities, and other electoral arrangements such as reviewing practical arrangements for polling, identifying suitable venues for use as polling and counting stations, reviewing and planning recruitment exercises for the appointment of polling and counting staff and organising training programmes for them, acquiring electoral materials and support services, and organising large-scale voter registration publicity in preparation for the 2015 DC ordinary election.

2. The REO will create 75 posts to carry out the above work. These 75 posts include 1 Principal Executive Officer, 4 Chief Executive Officer, 13 Senior Executive Officer, 29 Executive Officer I, 4 Executive Officer II, 5 Clerical Officer, 9 Assistant Clerical Officer, 2 Clerical Assistant, 1 Senior Information Officer, 1 Senior Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Officer, 2 Assistant Supplies Officer, 1 Supplies Supervisor II, 1 System Manager and 1 Analyst/Programmer I.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6292)

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 100):

- a) In 2014-15, what are the Registration and Electoral Office (REO)'s work plan and estimated expenditure for the voter registration campaign?
- b) In 2014-15, will the REO use new methods or channels to promote the voter registration campaign? If so, what are the details of the plan and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Regarding the 2014 Voter Registration (VR) campaign, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will through different media encourage eligible persons to register as electors if they have yet to do so and remind electors to fulfil their civic responsibility to update their registered particulars. Publicity measures include:

- (a) broadcasting of Announcements of Public Interest on television, radio and the internet appealing for new registrations; and reminding registered electors to notify the REO of any change of residential addresses and to provide or update their email addresses;
- (b) placing advertisements in newspapers, popular websites and mobile applications to encourage new registrations and timely updating of registered particulars by electors;
- (c) setting up registration counters at Registration of Persons Offices of the Immigration Department to encourage and facilitate young people applying for or collecting adult identity cards at those Offices as well as other eligible persons to register as electors;
- (d) displaying posters in universities, tertiary institutions and secondary schools to appeal to

students who have reached the age of 18 to register as electors;

(e) issuing appeal letters to households which have moved into newly developed housing estates to remind them to update their addresses with the REO or register as electors; and

(f) displaying posters at the advertising light boxes of bus stops over the territory and displaying posters and distributing VR forms at district offices, public housing estate management offices, government departments and social services institutions.

To encourage young people to come forward to register, the REO will continue to reach out and disseminate VR information to young people in the 2014 VR cycle through various media in addition to the traditional ones and look for other suitable channels, such as large scale events with participation of young people, to launch VR publicity. The overall estimated expenditure for VR and related checking work in 2014-15 is around \$69 million including expenses for the 2014 VR campaign, processing the registration forms received, compiling and publishing the provisional and final registers and other operational expenses.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6293)

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 701):

The Office stated that it would conduct checks on electors in the current register in respect of their registered particulars, including cross-matching exercise with other government departments in 2014-15. What are the details of the work and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

To enhance the accuracy of the registered particulars of electors, especially the registered addresses of electors in the final register of electors, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) has put in place various checking measures, including the cross-matching of the particulars of electors with a few government departments, as below:

- (a) follow-up inquiries on undelivered poll cards arising from elections;
- (b) cross-matching of data with the Housing Department, the Hong Kong Housing Society and the Home Affairs Department for verification of electors' registered addresses;
- (c) checks on multiple electors or multiple surnames of electors registered with the same residential address;
- (d) random sample checks on existing electors;
- (e) checks on addresses with incomplete information, commercial addresses or suspected non-residential addresses;

(f) checks on addresses in buildings already demolished or to be demolished based on the information provided by the Buildings Department; and

(g) sample checks on new voter registration (VR) applications.

2. The REO plans to increase manpower and resources in 2014-15 to handle the large number of applications for VR and the updating of particulars expected to be received before the District Council election in 2015, and to further enhance the checking work. The work related to VR and checking will be carried out by a team comprising 92 civil servants (including 6 newly added time-limited civil service posts) and around 200 non-civil service contract staff. The expenditure on staff remuneration and the related operational expenses are estimated to be around \$69 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6294)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 702):

The Office stated that it would review the overall electoral arrangements in 2014-15 with a view to providing better services to electors and candidates in future elections. What are the details of the work and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office will create 75 posts in 2014-15 to commence the early planning work for the election cycle in 2015-17, including review of the overall electoral arrangements and preparation for the 2015 District Council ordinary election. The review will cover relevant electoral legislation, guidelines on election-related activities, venues for use as polling and counting stations, appointment of and training for polling and counting staff, voting procedures and various practical electoral arrangements. The estimated salary expenditure for these posts is around \$35 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6295)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 703):

The Office stated that it would “make subsidiary legislation on electoral arrangements for the 2015-17 election cycle as necessary”. What are the details and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will create 75 posts in 2014-15 to commence the early planning work for the election cycle in 2015-17, including review of the overall electoral arrangements and preparation for the 2015 District Council ordinary election. The review will cover electoral procedure of the relevant electoral legislation, guidelines on election-related activities, venues for use as polling and counting stations, appointment of and training for polling and counting staff, voting procedures and various practical electoral arrangements. After the review, the REO will amend subsidiary legislation when necessary to stipulate the electoral procedure. The estimated salary expenditure for these posts is around \$35 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6296)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 704):

The Registration and Electoral Office stated that it would issue guidelines for the conduct of the 2015 Village Representative elections. What are the details and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Regarding the 2015 Village Representative elections, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will assist the Electoral Affairs Commission to review and update the guidelines on election-elected activities, conduct public consultation and relevant publicity programmes including broadcasting announcements of public interest on television and radio, advertising on newspaper and putting up posters in the districts, etc. The REO has earmarked about \$1.15 million in the 2014-15 Estimate for the above work.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6297)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 705):

- a) For the District Council by-elections and the Village Representative by-elections conducted in Hong Kong in 2013-14, what were the staff establishment and expenditure for each by-election?
- b) The Office stated that in 2014-15 it would supervise the conduct of Village Representative by-elections and the 2015 Village Representative elections. What are the details and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) organised by-elections for the Kwun Tong District Council (KTDC) Ping Shek Constituency, the Yau Tsim Mong District Council (YTMDC) King's Park Constituency and the Southern District Council (SDC) South Horizons West Constituency. The operational expenses for the KTDC Ping Shek Constituency by-election and the YTMDC King's Park Constituency by-election were about \$600,000 and \$700,000 respectively. Since the SDC South Horizons West Constituency by-election was just held on 23 March 2014 and part of the expenses has not yet been settled, the REO is unable to provide information on the actual expenditure for that by-election. The REO prepared and conducted the by-elections for District Councils with its existing staff establishment.

2. Under the existing mechanism, the Village Representative elections (including by-elections) are arranged by the Home Affairs Department which provides resources and manpower so required, while the REO assists the Electoral Affairs Commission (EAC) to supervise the relevant work.

3. In 2014-15, the REO will assist the EAC to supervise the Village Representative by-elections and the 2015 Village Representative elections, and submit a report on such by-

elections to the Chief Executive. In respect of the relevant work for the 2015 Village Representative elections, the REO will assist the EAC to review the relevant electoral legislation, review and update the guidelines on election-related activities and supervise the preparation and conduct of the elections. Additional staff establishment is not required for the above work. Regarding the operational expenses, the REO has earmarked about \$1.15 million for work related to the formulation of guidelines on election-related activities, conduct of public consultation and relevant publicity programmes including broadcasting announcements of public interest on television and radio, advertising on newspaper and putting up posters in the districts, etc.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5392)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 57):

Please inform this Committee whether any of the increased provision in the 2014-15 Estimates will be used to supervise the conduct of Village Representative by-elections and the 2015 Village Representative elections. If yes, what are the resources and manpower involved? If no, what steps have been taken to ensure that there are adequate resources and manpower to undertake the relevant election work?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

Under the existing mechanism, the Village Representative elections (including by-elections) are arranged by the Home Affairs Department which provides resources and manpower so required, while the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) assists the Electoral Affairs Commission (EAC) to supervise the relevant work.

2. In 2014-15, the REO will assist the EAC to supervise the Village Representative by-elections and the 2015 Village Representative elections, and submit a report on such by-elections to the Chief Executive. In respect of the relevant work for the 2015 Village Representative elections, the REO will assist the EAC to review the relevant electoral legislation, review and update the guidelines on election-elected activities and supervise the preparation and conduct of the elections. Additional staff establishment is not required for the above work. Regarding the operational expenses, the REO has earmarked about \$1.15 million for work related to the formulation of guidelines on election-related activities, conduct of public consultation and relevant publicity programmes including broadcasting announcements of public interest on television and radio, advertising on newspaper and putting up posters in the districts, etc.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 6534)

Head: (163) Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 94):

How will the Administration step up its supervision to prevent a body from illegally amending its membership or abusing its power in recruiting members, which enables such members to register as electors subsequently? What are the contents, timetable and estimated provision of, and manpower required for such plans?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

According to the prevailing voter registration (VR) system, the eligibility of voter registration in functional constituencies (FCs) is, in some cases, based on the membership in bodies specified under the Legislative Council Ordinance (Cap. 542). In these cases, for the purposes of verifying the registration eligibility of electors in respective FCs and removing those who are no longer eligible for registration as electors, the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) will seek information on membership from the specified bodies concerned in each VR cycle.

2. According to the current legislation, an amendment or substitution to the constitution of a specified body, which relates to (1) the objects of the body; (2) the criteria and conditions of membership of the body; or (3) the eligibility of members of the body to vote at a general meeting of the body, has to be approved by the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs in writing.

3. Starting from the 2012 VR cycle, the REO has written to these specified bodies from time to time to appeal for their support in maintaining a proper and transparent membership administration system so that they can provide timely, up-to-date and accurate membership information to the REO. To sustain these efforts, the Independent Commission Against

Corruption (ICAC) has initiated a new and targeted visit-cum-advisory service programme starting from mid-2013 to further drive home the message of good corporate governance and transparent membership administration. Under the programme, the ICAC will proactively offer advisory service to individual specified bodies to help review and enhance their membership administration, ensure procedural compliance and enhance transparency.

4. In 2014-15, duties relating to VR and related checking work are will be carried out by a team of 92 civil servants (including 6 newly created time-limited civil service posts) and around 200 non-civil service contract staff in the REO. The tasks of this team include, among other things, processing of elector registration applications for FCs, and compilation and publication of the relevant registers of electors. The estimated expenditure on staff cost and the related operational expenses are around \$69 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No.4763)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 69):

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention of this Programme, it is mentioned that the Administration will review the overall electoral arrangements with a view to providing better services to electors and candidates in future elections. Would the Government advise of what electoral arrangements will be involved specifically in the review? In what manner will the Government conduct the review? What will be the estimates and manpower required?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The Registration and Electoral Office will create 75 posts in 2014-15 to commence the early planning work for the election cycle in 2015-17, including review of the overall electoral arrangements and preparation for the 2015 District Council ordinary election. The review will cover relevant electoral legislation, guidelines on election-related activities, venues for use as polling and counting stations, appointment of and training for polling and counting staff, voting procedures and various practical electoral arrangements. The estimated salary expenditure for these posts is around \$35 million.

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

(Question Serial No. 5291)

Head: (163)Registration And Electoral Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Electoral Services

Controlling Officer: Chief Electoral Officer(LI Pak-hong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs

This question originates from:

Question (Member Question No. 67):

What are the estimates for 2014-15 for the Registration and Electoral Office's duty visits or exchanges in the Mainland? Please provide information about the themes of duty visits or exchanges in the Mainland planned for 2014-15. How will the Administration prevent activities irrelevant to official duties from taking place during duty visits outside Hong Kong? And how will the Administration prevent applications for revising visit destinations from becoming a mere formality?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Registration and Electoral Office has no plan for duty visits or exchanges in the Mainland.