CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0069)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

As the Department will continue to implement and review the effectiveness of the feeder system scheme for early identification and development of young potential athletes in 2016-17, please inform this Committee of:

(1)   the details of the review and the expected completion date;

(2)   the details of the scheme's work in this year;

(3)   the specific expenditure of the scheme for this year and the detailed breakdown.

Asked by: Hon IP Kwok-him (Member Question No. 9)

Reply:

The Feeder System Scheme was launched in 2009-10 to help "national sports associations" (NSAs) identify and nurture young potential athletes and to provide them with regular opportunities to participate in training and competitions, thereby improving their performance at a higher level.

We have assessed the effectiveness of the scheme in terms of achievement of performance targets set by the NSAs, including the organisation of feeder programmes, recruitment of squad members, and athletes' achievements in international sports competitions. Since its launch in 2009-10, the scheme has achieved very good results. As at December 2015, the scheme has resulted in the identification of 1 613 athletes for promotion to higher level squads for further training. Of these, 451 have been promoted to junior squads of different sports.

Around $16.4 million has been earmarked to support 52 NSAs to implement their feeder programmes in 2016-17 and the amount to be allocated to the individual NSAs is being finalised. The programmes to be implemented under the scheme will mainly include

development programmes, talent identification, regional and junior squad training, local competitions, overseas training and competitions.

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