

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB443**

**(Question Serial No. 3861)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

- (a) What work did the Leisure and Cultural Services Department undertake in 2015-16 to promote the utilisation of sports facilities? How effective is the work and what was the expenditure involved?
- (b) The Department stated that it will promote the utilisation of existing sports facilities in 2016-17. What are the details and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 345)

Reply:

- (a) To encourage greater use of its sports facilities especially during non-peak hours in 2015-16, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) allows free use of selected sports facilities by schools, subvented non-government organisations, "national sports associations" and district sports associations during non-peak hours. Moreover, people with disabilities, citizens aged 60 or above and full-time students can enjoy concessionary rates in the use of selected sports facilities during peak and non-peak hours. The Public Swimming Pool Monthly Ticket Scheme is also available to make regular swimming in public swimming pools more affordable. In addition, the LCSD continues to upgrade the standard of its sports facilities and organise large-scale promotional activities such as the Sport for All Day, as well as fun days, training courses and competitions to promote the use of facilities.

As a result of the efforts made by the LCSD to promote the utilisation of sports facilities, the average usage rates of different types of sports facilities have met their respective target. The LCSD carries out the above measures as part of its ongoing work through deployment of existing resources. The Department does not have a breakdown of the specific expenditure involved in implementing these measures.

- (b) In 2016-17, the LCSD will continue the above measures to promote the utilisation of existing sports facilities and keep in view of the usage of the sports facilities. As

stated in (a) above, the promotion measures are part of the ongoing work carried out through deployment of existing resources.

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