

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB520

(Question Serial No. 7043)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (3) Heritage and Museums

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

What are the details of the activities organised by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Office in the past year as well as the manpower and expenditures involved? For activities organised in collaboration with bearer organisations of intangible cultural heritage items and community organisations, what are the details, publicity, manpower and expenditures involved? What are the respective numbers of participants in these activities?

Asked by: Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 633)

Reply:

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Office (ICHO) was set up in May 2015 for the purpose of intensifying the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH). At present, the ICHO is staffed by 16 civil servants. The estimated expenditure (excluding staff cost) for the operation of ICHO in safeguarding and promoting ICH in 2015-16 is \$10 million. Activities organised include –

- (a) research and survey: following the promulgation of Hong Kong's first ICH inventory in 2014, in-depth research is being conducted on the ICH inventory items, including those of higher cultural value for drawing up the first Hong Kong's representative list of ICH.
- (b) exhibitions and displays: various ICH items and ICH bearers were featured in exhibitions and displays, including "Genesis and Spirit: Intangible Cultural Heritage of Gansu" exhibition and displays of paper craftworks by local masters at urban lantern carnivals and the Hong Kong International Airport. Since November 2015, the ICHO has started using the Sam Tung Uk Museum (STUM) in Tsuen Wan to house regular exhibitions and a resource centre for the promotion of ICH. Its first exhibition is "The Oral Legacies - Intangible Cultural Heritage of Hong Kong" featuring 10 local items being inscribed on China's national list of ICH ^{Note 1} and the relevant bearer organisations, which has been on display at STUM since February 2016.

- (c) education and promotion activities: the ICHO collaborated with various bearers of ICH items and community organisations to promote public awareness of and interest in ICH, through various public programmes such as festivals, exhibitions, displays, talks, workshops, field trips and bearer demonstrations. For example, apart from talks, viewing of Tai O dragon boat water parade and demonstration on craftsmanship of Tai Hang fire dragon dance were organised in collaboration with the bearer organisations respectively.
- (d) The attendance of some key activities is listed below:

Activity	Period	Venue	Attendance
Genesis and Spirit: Intangible Cultural Heritage of Gansu Exhibition	5 to 21 June 2015	Hong Kong Central Library	13 535
Exhibition on Yu Lan Ghost Festival under Yu Lan Cultural Festival	26 to 28 August 2015	Hong Ning Road Recreation Ground, Kwun Tong	7 000 Note 2
Exhibition on Traditional Craftsmanship of Lantern Making at Urban Mid-Autumn Lantern Carnival	23 to 28 September 2015	Victoria Park	393 900 Note 2
Hong Kong Dragon and Lion Dance Fiesta and Hakka Unicorn Dance and Kung Fu Carnival under Hong Kong Culture Festival	26 September and 18 October 2015	Victoria Park and Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza	3 328
Paper-crafting Technique on Southern Dragon Exhibition	15 January to 5 August 2016	Hong Kong International Airport Departures Hall	81 052 (as at 29 February 2016)
Exhibition on Traditional Craftsmanship of Lantern Making at Urban Lunar New Year Lantern Carnival	19 to 24 February 2016	Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza	126 000 Note 2

Note 1 The 10 local items on the national list of ICH include Cantonese opera, herbal tea, the Cheung Chau Jiao Festival, the Tai O dragon boat water parade, the Yu Lan Ghost Festival of the Hong Kong Chiu Chow community, the Tai Hang fire dragon dance, the arts of the Guqin (the craft of qin making), the Quanzhen temples Taoist ritual music, the Hakka unicorn dance in Hang Hau, Sai Kung and the Wong Tai Sin belief and customs. Cantonese opera has become a world ICH item since 2009.

Note 2 Representing the total attendance of the event. No separate attendance figure for the exhibition.