

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB197**

**(Question Serial No. 0734)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (5) Public Libraries

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

What were the actual expenditures of public libraries on replenishing library stock over the past 5 years (in 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17)? What were the expenditures on purchasing printed books and the actual numbers of books purchased? Regarding the expenditures on purchasing printed books, what were the amounts spent on purchasing books in traditional Chinese characters and the actual numbers of books purchased; the amounts spent on purchasing books in simplified Chinese characters and the actual numbers of books purchased; and the amounts spent on purchasing English books and the actual numbers of books purchased? Finally, how many printed books in traditional Chinese characters, simplified Chinese characters and English are public libraries planning to replenish for 2017-18?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wing-hang, Dennis (Member Question No. 2)

Reply:

Details on the acquisition of library materials and printed books with breakdown figures on traditional Chinese characters, simplified Chinese characters and English books over the past 5 years are set out at the Annex. In 2017-18, the Hong Kong Public Libraries plans to acquire about 770 000 items of new books, among which Chinese and English books will account for about 580 000 items and 190 000 items respectively. Breakdown on the number of traditional Chinese characters and simplified Chinese characters books to be acquired in 2017-18 is not available at this stage.

## Acquisition of library materials and printed books by the Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) in the past 5 years

Financial Year	Total Expenditure on Acquisition of Library Materials <sup>(1)</sup> (\$ million)	Total Expenditure on Acquisition of Printed Books <sup>(2)</sup> (\$ million)	Total Number of Printed Books Acquired <sup>(3)</sup>	Acquisition of Chinese Books				Acquisition of English Books	
				Traditional Chinese <sup>(4)</sup>		Simplified Chinese <sup>(4)</sup>			
			Items ('000)	Items ('000)	Expenditure (\$ million)	Items ('000)	Expenditure (\$ million)	Items ('000)	Expenditure (\$ million)
2012-13	88.47	52.60	744	471	20.64	63	2.67	210	29.29
2013-14	87.49	50.07	691	445	19.25	51	2.21	195	28.61
2014-15	90.16	50.38	740	486	21.58	31	1.62	223	27.18
2015-16	97.34	52.58	774	528	23.83	54	2.07	192	26.68
2016-17 (Estimated)	97.87	53.14	778	530	23.88	39	1.62	209	27.64

Notes

- (1) Library materials include printed books, newspapers and periodicals, multi-media resources and e-resources, etc., excluding the cost of book binding.
- (2) Excluding the cost of book binding.
- (3) The figures may be slightly different from the actual numbers due to rounding up/down effect.
- (4) Estimate figures based on the number of Chinese books acquired through the relevant contract suppliers of the HKPL per annum.