

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB231**

**(Question Serial No. 1750)**

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:

- (a) Please list in the table below the usage rate of each natural turf pitch in Hong Kong.

| Venue | Usage Rate |
|-------|------------|
|       |            |

- (b) What are the expenditure and staff establishment for the maintenance of natural turf pitches in the past year?
- (c) Does the Government have any plan to build new natural turf pitches in 2017-18? If so, what are the details and the expenditures involved? If not, what are the reasons?
- (d) Will any conversion or renovation works be carried out at the above natural turf pitches in 2017-18? If so, what are the details and the expenditures involved?
- (e) Please list in the table below the usage rate of each artificial turf pitch in Hong Kong.

| Venue | Second Generation Artificial Turf/<br>Third Generation Artificial Turf | Usage Rate |
|-------|--|------------|
|       |  |            |

- (f) What are the expenditure and staff establishment for the maintenance of artificial turf pitches in the past year?
- (g) Does the Government have any plan to build new artificial turf pitches in 2017-18? If so, what are the details and the expenditures involved? If not, what are the reasons?
- (h) Will any conversion or renovation works be carried out at the above artificial turf pitches in 2017-18? If so, what are the details and the expenditures involved?

- (i) Will the Government consider using the fourth generation artificial turf when building new artificial turf pitches or converting existing pitches into artificial turf pitches? If so, what are the details and the estimated expenditures? If not, what are the reasons?
- (j) Regarding the carcinogens found earlier at third generation artificial turf pitches, what follow-up measures will the Government take and what are the expenditures involved? Will the Government convert the existing third generation artificial turf pitches into fourth generation artificial turf pitches for this reason? If so, what are the details and the estimated expenditures? If not, what are the reasons?
- (k) Among the natural turf pitches and artificial turf pitches managed by the Government, how many of them meet the standard for staging international matches? Please provide the names of the pitches.

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 68)

Reply:

- (a) &(e) The usage rates of natural and artificial turf pitches managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) in 2016 are set out at Annex I.
- (b)&(f) As most of the natural and artificial turf pitches form part of the facilities provided in the public leisure venues such as parks and sports grounds, LCSD does not have separate figures on the expenditure of individual pitches.
- (c) LCSD is planning 1 new sports ground with natural turf pitch in Tuen Mun District and preparation is being made to consult the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs and seek funding approval of the Finance Committee in 2017-18 on its pre-construction works. The cost estimate is being worked out.
- (d)&(h) No conversion or renovation works at the natural and artificial turf pitches listed in Annex I will be carried out in 2017-18.
- (g) A third generation (3G) artificial turf pitch under an open space project at Hing Wah Street West in Sham Shui Po is under construction. It will be completed by the third quarter of 2017. The approved project estimate is about \$122 million. As the turf pitch forms part of the project estimate, LCSD does not have separate figures on the expenditure for the pitch.
- (i) When building new artificial turf pitches or converting existing pitches into artificial turf pitches, LCSD makes reference to the prevailing approved list of the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) for football training or competitions. At present, the products and designs generally referred to as “fourth generation” artificial turf are not on the prevailing approved list of FIFA. The Department is however considering putting on trial use of other turf system that meets with FIFA standard in selected venues.
- (j) As regards the artificial turf systems currently in use in LCSD's 3G artificial turf pitches, they are in compliance with the FIFA's requirements. LCSD's staff keep

regular inspections of the conditions of the pitches. Regular turf maintenance (including replenishment of infill materials) is carried out as appropriate. Besides, cleansing of debris and trailing rubber granules are carried out by venue staff on regular basis. If damage is found, the contractors from the Architectural Services Department or LCSD will arrange maintenance work or fill in the rubber granules as soon as possible. The contractors are required to submit, in accordance with the contract requirements, relevant certificates of the materials used to demonstrate that the materials are in compliance with safety requirements. As artificial turf pitches form part of the facilities in public leisure venues, LCSD does not have separate figures on the manpower and expenditure involved in managing, maintaining and improving 3G artificial turf pitches.

LCSD has formed a new committee to review the current standards, requirements and practices for the design, construction, installation, operation and maintenance of artificial turf pitches in venues managed by LCSD.

Since the products and designs generally referred to as “fourth generation” artificial turf are not on the prevailing approved list of FIFA, the Government will not convert the existing 3G artificial turf pitches to the claimed “fourth generation” pitches.

- (k) Among the football pitches managed by the Government, there are 24 natural turf pitches and 13 artificial turf pitches meeting the standard dimension for staging international matches. The list of pitches is set out at Annex II.

**Annex I to Reply Serial No. HAB231**

**Usage of Natural and Artificial Turf Pitches in 2016**

| <b>Venue<sup>(1)</sup></b> |   | <b>NTP /<br/>2G / 3G <sup>(2)</sup></b> | <b>Overall Usage</b> |
|----------------------------|---|---|----------------------|
| 1.                         | Aberdeen Sports Ground                          | NTP                                     | 92%                  |
| 2.                         | Boundary Street Recreation Ground               | 2G                                      | 70%                  |
| 3.                         | Causeway Bay Sports Ground                      | NTP                                     | 100%                 |
| 4.                         | Cherry Street Park                              | 3G                                      | 83%                  |
| 5.                         | Fanling Recreation Ground                       | NTP                                     | 94%                  |
| 6.                         | Hammer Hill Road Sports Ground                  | NTP                                     | 92%                  |
| 7.                         | Happy Valley Recreation Ground                  | NTP / 2G / 3G                           | 72%                  |
| 8.                         | Hin Tin Playground                              | NTP                                     | 97%                  |
| 9.                         | Ho Man Tin East Service Reservoir<br>Playground | NTP                                     | 87%                  |
| 10.                        | Kowloon Bay Park                                | 3G                                      | 71%                  |
| 11.                        | Kowloon Bay Sports Ground                       | NTP                                     | 98%                  |
| 12.                        | Kowloon Tsai Park                               | NTP                                     | 94%                  |
| 13.                        | Kowloon Tsai Park Grass Pitch                   | 3G                                      | 78%                  |
| 14.                        | Kowloon Tsai Sports Ground                      | NTP                                     | 93%                  |
| 15.                        | Kwai Chung Sports Ground                        | NTP                                     | 97%                  |
| 16.                        | Kwong Fuk Football Ground                       | 3G                                      | 66%                  |
| 17.                        | Kwong Fuk Park                                  | 3G                                      | 69%                  |
| 18.                        | Kwu Tung Grass Soccer Pitch                     | NTP                                     | 77%                  |
| 19.                        | Kwun Tong Recreation Ground                     | 3G                                      | 83%                  |
| 20.                        | Lok Fu Recreation Ground                        | 2G                                      | 75%                  |
| 21.                        | Ma On Shan Recreation Ground                    | 3G                                      | 63%                  |
| 22.                        | Ma On Shan Sports Ground                        | NTP                                     | 94%                  |
| 23.                        | Man Tung Road Park                              | 3G                                      | 76%                  |
| 24.                        | Morse Park                                      | 3G                                      | 70%                  |
| 25.                        | North District Sports Ground                    | NTP                                     | 92%                  |
| 26.                        | Pak Fuk Tin Sum Playground                      | 3G                                      | 68%                  |
| 27.                        | Po Kong Village Road Park                       | 3G                                      | 74%                  |
| 28.                        | Po Tsui Park                                    | 2G                                      | 51%                  |
| 29.                        | Quarry Bay Park                                 | 3G                                      | 84%                  |
| 30.                        | Sai Kung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground            | NTP                                     | 64%                  |
| 31.                        | Sai Tso Wan Recreation Ground                   | NTP                                     | 96%                  |
| 32.                        | Sha Tin Sports Ground                           | NTP                                     | 98%                  |

| Venue <sup>(1)</sup> |   | NTP /<br>2G / 3G <sup>(2)</sup> | Overall Usage |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 33.                  | Sham Shui Po Sports Ground                    | NTP                             | 100%          |
| 34.                  | Shek Kip Mei Park                             | 3G                              | 78%           |
| 35.                  | Shing Mun Valley Sports Ground                | NTP                             | 100%          |
| 36.                  | Shun Lee Tsuen Sports Centre                  | 3G                              | 73%           |
| 37.                  | Siu Lun Sports Ground                         | NTP                             | 88%           |
| 38.                  | Siu Sai Wan Sports Ground                     | NTP                             | 100%          |
| 39.                  | So Kon Po Recreation Ground                   | NTP                             | 112%          |
| 40.                  | Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park                     | 3G                              | 77%           |
| 41.                  | Tai Hang Tung Recreation Ground               | NTP                             | 100%          |
| 42.                  | Tai Po Sports Ground                          | NTP                             | 100%          |
| 43.                  | Tin Kwong Road Recreation Ground              | NTP                             | 98%           |
| 44.                  | Tin Shui Wai Sports Ground                    | NTP                             | 100%          |
| 45.                  | Tin Yip Road Park                             | 3G                              | 77%           |
| 46.                  | Tsang Tai Uk Recreation Ground                | 3G                              | 69%           |
| 47.                  | Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground (Main Field)      | NTP                             | 100%          |
| 48.                  | Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground (Secondary Field) | NTP                             | 90%           |
| 49.                  | Tsing Yi Northeast Park                       | 3G                              | 63%           |
| 50.                  | Tsing Yi Sports Ground                        | NTP                             | 100%          |
| 51.                  | Tsuen Wan Riviera Park                        | NTP                             | 98%           |
| 52.                  | Tuen Mun Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground          | NTP                             | 90%           |
| 53.                  | Wai Lok Street Temporary Soccer Pitch         | NTP                             | 96%           |
| 54.                  | Wo Yi Hop Road Sports Ground                  | NTP                             | 96%           |
| 55.                  | Wong Chuk Hang Recreation Ground              | 3G                              | 70%           |
| 56.                  | Wu Shan Recreation Playground                 | 3G                              | 63%           |
| 57.                  | Yuen Long Stadium                             | NTP                             | 100%          |
| <b>Total :</b>       |   |                                 | <b>75%</b>    |

#### Notes

- (1) Usage rates of Hong Kong Stadium and Mong Kok Stadium are excluded.
- (2) NTP : Natural turf pitch  
2G : Second generation artificial turf pitch  
3G : Third generation artificial turf pitch

**Pitches that Meet the Standard Dimension for Staging International Matches**

**(I) Natural Turf Pitches**

1. Aberdeen Sports Ground
2. Fanling Recreation Ground
3. Ho Man Tin East Service Reservoir Playground Pitch No. 1
4. Ho Man Tin East Service Reservoir Playground Pitch No. 2
5. Hong Kong Stadium
6. Kowloon Tsai Sports Ground
7. Kwai Chung Sports Ground
8. Ma On Shan Sports Ground
9. Mong Kok Stadium
10. North District Sports Ground
11. Sai Kung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground
12. Sai Tso Wan Recreation Ground
13. Sha Tin Sports Ground
14. Sham Shui Po Sports Ground
15. Shing Mun Valley Sports Ground
16. Siu Sai Wan Sports Ground
17. Tai Hang Tung Recreation Ground Pitch No. 2
18. Tai Po Sports Ground
19. Tin Shui Wai Sports Ground
20. Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground
21. Tsing Yi Sports Ground
22. Tsuen Wan Riviera Park
23. Tuen Mun Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground
24. Yuen Long Stadium

**(II) Artificial Turf Pitches**

1. Boundary Street Recreation Ground
2. Kowloon Bay Park
3. Kowloon Tsai Park Pitch No. 1
4. Kwong Fuk Park
5. Lok Fu Recreation Ground
6. Ma On Shan Recreation Ground
7. Po Kong Village Road Park Pitch No. 1
8. Po Kong Village Road Park Pitch No. 2
9. Shek Kip Mei Park
10. Tin Yip Road Park
11. Tsang Tai Uk Recreation Ground
12. Tsing Yi Northeast Park
13. Wu Shan Recreation Playground