

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB172

(Question Serial No. 2729)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Heritage and Museums, (4) Performing Arts
Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Budget Speech mentioned “the expansion of the Hong Kong Science Museum, Hong Kong Museum of History and Hong Kong City Hall”. Please inform the Committee of the following:

- a) Will a public consultation be conducted on the expansion of the Hong Kong City Hall?
- b) What are the estimates and timetable of each expansion project?

Asked by: Hon KWONG Chun-yu (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 74)

Reply:

- (a) According to Rule 49 of the Finance Committee Procedures, special meetings of the Finance Committee are convened to examine the annual Estimates of Expenditure prepared by the Government in support of the Appropriation Bill.
- (b) Expenditure charged to the Capital Works Reserve Fund do not form part of the Appropriation Bill. As such, questions relating to expenditure under the Fund are not relevant to the examination of the Estimates of Expenditure or the Appropriation Bill.

The Government will set aside \$20 billion for the improvement and development of cultural facilities. Major projects such as the expansion of the Hong Kong Science Museum, Hong Kong Museum of History and Hong Kong City Hall, aim to provide additional facilities and/or upgrade major facilities to meet modern day needs. They are at different planning stages. We will finalise the details and consult relevant stakeholders such as the District Councils, relevant advisory bodies and cultural organisations when ready. Details on the estimated capital and recurrent costs and implementation schedule of the projects are being worked out.

- End -