

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB191**

**(Question Serial No. 2210)**

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:

It is stated in the Budget that \$20 billion will be set aside for the improvement and development of cultural facilities in the coming 10 years. In this connection, please provide in the table below the information about cultural facilities pending improvement or development.

Name of project	Status (approved by Finance Committee/pending approval by Finance Committee/ under planning/others)	Works commencement date	Works completion date	Estimated expenditure

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 48)

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. We have planned to seek the funding approval of the Finance Committee (FC) for the pre-construction activities of the following 2 projects after consultation with the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Home Affairs in 2017-18 legislative session:

Name of project	Project Description
New Territories East Cultural Centre	We propose to construct the NTECC as a cross-district cultural centre with multi-purpose facilities for performances and rehearsals in the New

(NTECC)	<p>Territories East region.</p> <p>The funding requirement for the pre-construction activities is estimated to be \$78.4 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices. Subject to the FC's funding approval, the pre-construction activities are scheduled to commence in the fourth quarter of 2018 for completion in 2022. After completion of the pre-construction activities which cover site investigation works, feasibility studies, design for the project, etc., we will work out the estimated costs and the schedule of the main construction works for seeking the necessary funding approval for the project.</p>
Construction of the Heritage Conservation and Resource Centre (HCRC)	<p>We propose to construct the HCRC as a dedicated storage and conservation facility to meet the long-term preservation need of the growing collections of the museums and heritage centres under the management of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD).</p> <p>The funding requirement for the pre-construction activities is estimated to be \$89.0 million in MOD prices. Subject to the FC's funding approval, the pre-construction activities are scheduled to commence in the fourth quarter of 2018 for completion in 2021. After completion of the pre-construction activities which cover site investigation works, feasibility studies, design for the project, etc., we will work out the estimated costs and the schedule of the main construction works for seeking the necessary funding approval for the project.</p>

Other cultural projects to be rolled out in the coming 10 years include the expansion of the Hong Kong Science Museum, Hong Kong Museum of History and Hong Kong City Hall; and the renovation of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. They are at different planning stages. We will finalise the details and consult relevant stakeholders when ready. Details on the estimated capital and recurrent costs and implementation schedule of the projects are being worked out.

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