

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB401

(Question Serial No. 4769)

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:

1. Please provide the figures on the participation of people with disabilities (PWDs) in general recreation and sports activities in the past 5 years, and give information on the modes of assistance offered by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and an overview in this regard. What strategy does the Government have for promoting and facilitating the participation of PWDs in general recreation and sports activities?
2. In addition to barrier-free access, has the LCSD acquired sports equipment, auxiliary aids or adaptive tools for different types of PWDs so that they can as well participate in general recreation and sports activities organised by the LCSD? If so, please list the types of equipment acquired. If not, what are the reasons?
3. How does the LCSD deal with cases in which PWDs are prevented from participating in general recreation and sports activities organised by the LCSD due to the lack of proper sports equipment, auxiliary aids or adaptive tools?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 4067)

Reply:

1. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) all along promotes Sport for All and organises diversified recreation and sports programmes for the members of the public including people with disabilities (PWDs). LCSD does not have separate record on the number of PWDs participated in general recreation and sports programmes. To encourage the participation of PWDs and help them develop the habit for doing regular exercises, LCSD offers PWDs concessionary rate for hiring LCSD's recreation and sports facilities or enrolment in its fee-charging programmes. Besides, LCSD has developed a dedicated webpage on its website to provide a one-stop relevant information source for PWDs to know more about the activities suitable for PWDs and ancillary facilities available at various venues, thereby increasing their interest in sports participation.

2. In order to cater for the needs of people with different types of disability, LCSD has provided suitable ancillary facilities and equipment for use by PWDs when they participate in LCSD general recreation and sports activities organised at LCSD leisure venues. For instance, facilities including pool lifts/ramps designed to facilitate access to swimming pools are provided at some public swimming pools and swimming aids specifically for use in swimming training are available for the use of swimmers with disabilities. Ramps are provided at bowling greens to facilitate access by wheelchair users. Fitness equipment suitable for shared use by PWDs is also provided in some sports centres.
3. LCSD organises activities designed for all walks of life and care is exercised to cater for the needs of participants. The Department has no record on any cases that PWDs are prevented from participating in general recreation and sports activities organised by LCSD.

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