

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB449

(Question Serial No. 5408)

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:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced the first Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Hong Kong in August 2017. In this connection, please inform the Committee of the following:

- (a) The respective actual and estimated expenditures on the protection, promotion and transmission of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in the past 3 financial years as well as the current financial year.
- (b) It is indicated in the Budget that \$300 million will be allocated to strengthen the protection, promotion and transmission of the ICH. How will the provisions be used for these purposes?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 53)

Reply:

- (a) The Government attaches great importance to safeguarding intangible cultural heritage (ICH), and endeavours to enhance public awareness and understanding of ICH. Some of the key measures introduced in the past 3 financial years include –
 - (i) the establishment of a dedicated ICH Office in 2015 by upgrading the former ICH Unit under the Hong Kong Heritage Museum;
 - (ii) the setting up of the Hong Kong ICH Centre at the Sam Tung Uk Museum in 2016; and
 - (iii) the promulgation of the first Representative List of the ICH of Hong Kong in 2017, comprising 20 items of high cultural value and with an urgent need for preservation.

The expenditures incurred by the ICH Office for the safeguarding and promotion of ICH in the past 3 financial years and the current financial year are set out below–

Financial Year	Expenditure (\$ million)
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2015-16	9.45
2016-17	15.86
2017-18 (Estimated)	15.15
2018-19 (Estimated)	16.50

- (b) The allocation of \$300 million will serve as a dedicated funding to engage the community in safeguarding ICH through providing support to worthwhile initiatives organised by or in partnership with community organisations and ICH bearers. The ICH Office will provide curatorial inputs in some of the projects where appropriate to create synergy and maximise impact in the research, education, promotion and transmission of ICH including those items not included in the Representative List. The staff salaries of the ICH Office will not be chargeable to this new allocation. Details of the funding allocation are being worked out.

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