

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB193**

**(Question Serial No. 2269)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department  
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses  
Programme: (3) Heritage and Museums  
Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Mrs. Betty FUNG)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question (Member Question No. 6):

1. According to the estimates in the Budget, the number of attendance at museums is expected to fall short of the actual number for 2013 by about 640 000, but the operational expenses on artefacts and museum exhibitions in 2014-15 will increase by more than \$20 million. Will the Administration list out in detail the reasons for the increase in expenses? What expenses are involved?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

In 2014-15, additional funding is provided to the Leisure and Cultural Services Department to organise a number of blockbuster exhibitions, including “Chinese Paintings in Paris: The Legacy of 20th Century Chinese Master”, “Tsarskoye Selo: The Russian Imperial Summer Residence”, “Studio Ghibli Layout Designs: Understanding the Secrets of Takahata / Miyazaki Animation”, “The Extraordinary in the Ordinary: Chairs for Viewing the World through Time” and “Dunhuang Art and Culture” exhibitions.

The anticipated decrease in overall museum attendance for 2014 is due to two main reasons:

- (a) the planned closure of the Hong Kong Museum of Art for undertaking a major expansion and renovation project from October 2014 to 2017; and
- (b) the Life Sciences Hall of the Hong Kong Science Museum, occupying an area of 1 500 square metres, will be closed from April 2014 to late December 2015 for renovation and installation of the new Biodiversity Gallery and new exhibits on life sciences.