

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB197**

**(Question Serial No. 2758)**

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 (Mrs. Betty FUNG)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question (Member Question No. 7):

In 2014-15, the Department will plan to “renovate the Hong Kong Museum of Art to provide additional gallery space”. In this connection, please provide the following information:

- 1) What are the details of the renovation project?
- 2) What is the provision for the project and its detailed breakdown?
- 3) What benefits, such as 1) attendance figures and 2) additional types of exhibitions, are expected for the Hong Kong Museum of Art from the provision of additional gallery space when the renovation works are completed?

Asked by: Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply:

- 1) The Hong Kong Museum of Art (HKMA) will undergo major expansion and renovation, resulting in an over 40 per cent increase in the gallery space of the HKMA, from 7 080 square metres to over 10 000 square metres. This will be achieved through the addition of two new galleries on the rooftop and one in the adjoining annex block of the Museum, as well as optimising the use of its existing galleries. A new façade and an iconic canopy entrance will be provided to enhance the visibility of the Museum. Its entrance, shop and dining facilities will be relocated to the ground level to improve accessibility.
- 2) The estimated capital cost of the project will be in the region of \$890 million in money-of-the-day prices. A detailed breakdown of the cost items will be provided in the funding application for the project to be submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee in mid-2014.
- 3) The overall objective of the project is to enhance the HKMA's capacity in promoting Hong Kong art. Upon completion of the project, the HKMA will provide a new gallery on the rooftop for the display of Hong Kong artists' contemporary works; a “Hong Kong Art Gallery” for exhibitions on the history and development of Hong Kong art, a new gallery at the new annex block featuring works of Hong Kong artists with an experimental orientation, as well as thematic displays based on researches into Hong Kong art. With the addition of gallery space, it is expected that more exhibitions of a wider variety will be staged at the HKMA thereby attracting more visitors. As museum attendance depends on a range of factors such as the types of exhibitions held in a particular year, it is difficult to project the future attendance figures at this stage.