

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**HAB399**

Question Serial No.

4434

Head: 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services  
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Regarding the work of “providing quality library services to meet the information needs of the community and support life-long learning and continuous education” as mentioned in the Brief Description, please list by year the statistics for each and all of the libraries for the past two years (i.e. 2011-12 and 2012-13) in the following areas: the number of books/materials lost and their value; the number of books/materials lost due to the failure of readers to return them, the value of these books/materials and the amount of fines collected by the libraries; and the amount of fines collected for the late return of books/materials.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The statistical information on lost library materials and fines collected for late returned materials for all the public libraries under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) is given below.

	2011-12	2012-13 <sup>@</sup>
a) Library books/materials reported lost by readers and their value :		
(i) No. of items lost	11 770	18 240
(ii) Total value	\$1,350,300	\$1,135,700
b) Number of books/materials lost due to the failure of readers to return them, the value of these books/materials and the amount of fines outstanding :		
(i) No. of items not yet returned	7 710	5 330
(ii) Total value	\$756,600	\$538,600
(iii) Overdue fines outstanding #	\$756,400	\$656,700
c) Amount of overdue fines collected for the late return of books/materials	\$19,281,100	\$15,751,500

<sup>@</sup> As at end of January 2013.

# No separate record is kept for the amount of fines collected by the libraries for lost library books/materials due to the failure of readers to return them.

Name in block letters: Mrs. BETTY FUNG

Post Title: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Date: 9.4.2013