

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

HAB215

Question Serial No.

3001

Head: 74 – Information Services Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme: (2) Local Public Relations and Public Information

Controlling Officer: Director of Information Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

(a) Regarding the 1 204 press conferences and briefings arranged in 2010, will the Administration give a breakdown of them by departments?

(b) Does the aforementioned number include closed door briefings (commonly known as “tip-off” sessions) and will the Administration give a breakdown of them by departments?

(c) A total of 40 735 press releases were issued in 2010. Will the Administration give a breakdown of them by departments and the languages used?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

(a) The breakdown of 1 204 press conferences and briefings arranged in 2010, categorised by departments and organisations, is as follows:

<u>Department / organisation</u>	<u>Number</u>
Chief Executive's Office	41
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office	29
Financial Secretary's Office	32
Secretariat Press Office (Civil Service)	2
Secretariat Press Office (Commerce and Economic Development)	49
Secretariat Press Office (Constitutional and Mainland Affairs)	95
Secretariat Press Office (Development)	109
Secretariat Press Office (Education)	34
Secretariat Press Office (Environment)	16
Secretariat Press Office (Financial Services and the Treasury)	27
Secretariat Press Office (Food and Health)	83
Secretariat Press Office (Home Affairs)	15
Secretariat Press Office (Labour and Welfare)	77
Secretariat Press Office (Security)	49

<u>Department / organisation</u>	<u>Number</u>
Secretariat Press Office (Transport and Housing)	20
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	28
Buildings Department	8
Civil Aviation Department	3
Correctional Services Department	4
Customs and Excise Department	34
Department of Health	49
Department of Justice	6
Fire Services Department	49
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	16
Hong Kong Police Force	198
Housing Authority / Housing Department	13
Information Services Department	2
Innovation and Technology Commission	5
Judiciary	8
Labour Department	9
Legal Aid Department	1
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	81
Marine Department	2
Registration and Electoral Office	2
Social Welfare Department	2
Trade and Industry Department	5
Transport Department	1

(b) The breakdown of 44 closed door briefings, categorised by departments, is as follows:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Number</u>
Chief Executive's Office	1
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office	1
Financial Secretary's Office	1
Secretariat Press Office (Civil Service)	1
Secretariat Press Office (Commerce and Economic Development)	4
Secretariat Press Office (Constitutional and Mainland Affairs)	2
Secretariat Press Office (Development)	8
Secretariat Press Office (Environment)	3
Secretariat Press Office (Financial Services and the Treasury)	2

<u>Department</u>	<u>Number</u>
Secretariat Press Office (Food and Health)	6
Secretariat Press Office (Home Affairs)	1
Secretariat Press Office (Labour and Welfare)	2
Secretariat Press Office (Security)	1
Secretariat Press Office (Transport and Housing)	9
Information Services Department	2

* Closed door briefings generally refer to non-attributable background briefings.

(c) The breakdown of 40 735 press releases (with 20 090 Chinese press releases and 20 645 English press releases) issued in 2010, categorised by departments and languages used, is as follows:

<u>Department / organisation</u>	<u>No. of Chinese press releases</u>	<u>No. of English press releases</u>	<u>Total</u>
Chief Executive's Office	240	169	409
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office	171	98	269
Financial Secretary's Office	161	139	300
Secretariat Press Office (Civil Service)	63	58	121
Secretariat Press Office (Commerce and Economic Development)	365	323	688
Secretariat Press Office (Constitutional and Mainland Affairs)	237	167	404
Secretariat Press Office (Development)	514	465	979
Secretariat Press Office (Education)	272	239	511
Secretariat Press Office (Environment)	184	143	327
Secretariat Press Office (Financial Services and the Treasury)	320	278	598
Secretariat Press Office (Food and Health)	247	192	439
Secretariat Press Office (Home Affairs)	365	235	600
Secretariat Press Office (Labour and Welfare)	370	192	562
Secretariat Press Office (Security)	314	279	593
Secretariat Press Office (Transport and Housing)	264	211	475
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	179	172	351
Audit Commission	4	4	8

<u>Department / organisation</u>	<u>No. of Chinese press releases</u>	<u>No. of English press releases</u>	<u>Total</u>
BJO (Office of the Government of HKSAR in Beijing)	2	1	3
Buildings Department	31	29	60
Census and Statistics Department	184	184	368
Civil Aviation Department	26	26	52
Correctional Services Department	79	77	156
Customs and Excise Department	162	137	299
Department of Health	594	593	1 187
Department of Justice	65	54	119
Economic and Trade Offices	66	90	156
Environmental Protection Department	142	142	284
Executive Council Secretariat	7	5	12
Fire Services Department	26	25	51
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	181	180	361
Government Flying Service	1	1	2
Home Affairs Department	938	905	1 843
Hong Kong Monetary Authority	356	357	713
Hong Kong Observatory	104	104	208
Hong Kong Police Force	1 861	3 011	4 872
Hongkong Post	77	77	154
Hospital Authority	359	322	681
Housing Authority / Housing Department	68	52	120
Immigration Department	84	84	168
Information Services Department	1 945	2 556	4 501
Inland Revenue Department	1	1	2
Innovation and Technology Commission	33	33	66
Invest Hong Kong	60	60	120
Judiciary	34	34	68
Labour Department	168	136	304
Legislative Council	302	302	604
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	1 462	1 315	2 777
Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority	179	173	352
Marine Department	38	38	76
Planning Department	10	10	20

<u>Department / organisation</u>	<u>No. of Chinese press releases</u>	<u>No. of English press releases</u>	<u>Total</u>
Port, Maritime and Logistics Development Unit	4	5	9
Rating and Valuation Department	3	3	6
Registration and Electoral Office	70	70	140
Social Welfare Department	168	166	334
Trade and Industry Department	48	44	92
Transport Department	5 882	5 879	11 761

* The 40 735 press releases issued by the Government News and Media Information System also include ANE (attention news editors), INC (incident reports) and fax broadcasts (mainly announcements by Transport Department).

Signature _____

Name in block letters Michael WONG

Post Title Director of Information Services

Date 16.3.2011

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

HAB216

Question Serial No.

0651

Head: 74 – Information Services Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme: (4) Civic Responsibility

Controlling Officer: Director of Information Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

What will be the support provided by the Information Services Department (ISD) in the year 2011-12 for the 2011 population census, the voter registration campaign and the District Council Election? Please give a breakdown of the estimated number of large and small scale publicity activities, the number of posters to be produced and displayed, the number of Announcements in the Public Interest (APIs) to be produced, and the number of exhibitions to be mounted; and the estimated expenditure for each of the above items.

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

In 2011-12, the Information Services Department will provide support for the 2011 population census, the 2011 voter registration publicity campaign and the 2011 District Council Election.

The estimated expenditure on publicity for the 2011 population census is about \$5 million, which mainly covers advertisements on public transport, TV and radio APIs, newspaper and Internet advertisements, outdoor publicity items (such as giant wall banners and lamppost buntings), posters, information leaflets, roving exhibitions and school publicity materials (including souvenirs and teaching materials).

The estimated expenditure for the 2011 voter registration publicity campaign is \$3 million, which covers mini-concerts, radio programmes, TV and radio APIs, advertisement placements in MTR stations, advertisements on bus and taxi bodies as well as giant wall banners.

The content and budget of the publicity programme for the 2011 District Council Election are not available yet.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Michael WONG

Post Title Director of Information Services

Date 16.3.2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

HAB217

Question Serial No.

3219

Head: 74 – Information Services Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme: All

Controlling Officer: Director of Information Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

In relation to the estimated expenditure of the departmental Information Technology Management Unit (ITMU):

- (a) What is the estimated expenditure for the year 2011-12; the rate of increase or decrease in comparison with the actual expenditure for the year 2010-11 and the reasons for the change in expenditure?
- (b) What are the major projects included under the 2011-12 estimated expenditure, and which are the ongoing ones and new ones respectively? What are the number of staff, cost and schedule of each project? What is the percentage of civil servants, non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff and staff of outsourced contractors for these projects?
- (c) Have any funds been earmarked for taking forward the initiatives of “e-engagement” and “Opening Up of Public Sector Information”? If yes, what are the details, including the names of the projects, details, manpower involved, expenses and timetables for implementation? If no, what are the reasons and whether any consideration has been given to launch relevant initiatives in future?
- (d) What is the permanent establishment of the ITMU, the present number of staff and the number of vacancy? Will additional staff be employed in the coming financial year? If yes, what are the estimated numbers of additional post, the ranks involved, whether they will be permanent posts and the candidates will be employed under the terms and conditions of the civil service? If no, what are the reasons?
- (e) Has any comprehensive review been conducted on the efficacy of the ITMU? If yes, what are the results and the recommended improvement measures? If no, what are the reasons and whether any review will be conducted in future?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Wai-ho, Samson

Reply:

- (a) The estimated expenditure of the ITMU for the year 2011-12 is \$20.76 million. There has been an increase of 10.3% when compared to the expenditure of \$18.83 million for 2010-11. The increase is mainly due to the development of a new IT project and the enhancement of existing systems.

(b) Following is a breakdown of the major on-going and new projects for 2011-2012 with relevant details -

(i) **On-going Projects**

Item	Manpower Requirement for 2011-12		Estimated Expenditure for 2011-12 (\$)
	Civil Servant	IT Services Contract Staff	
Maintenance and enhancement of existing systems	4	4	11.51M

(ii) **New Project**

Item	Manpower Requirement for 2011-12		Estimated Expenditure for 2011-12 (\$)	Project Schedule
	Civil Servant	IT Services Contract Staff		
Revamp of data centre	2	2	9.25M	2010-11 – 2011-12

(c) In connection with e-engagement, the Information Services Department launched an online Government news e-Bulletin (www.news.gov.hk) in 2002. We re-launched it on 5 October 2010 with a vibrant new look and a host of customisable features, at a one-off project cost of about \$9.8 million. News stories, features, photos, videos and other information are being presented through the multi-media channel in a more accessible way. The revamp is part of the Government's drive to make greater use of new media and Web 2.0. ISD has also set up accounts on YouTube (www.youtube.com/isdgovhk) and Twitter (twitter.com/newsgovhk) to communicate with the public and to disseminate news and messages more quickly and efficiently.

On opening up of public sector information, ISD, in principle, has been facilitating the public and media to use the news materials disseminated through various channels, provided copy rights are not infringed.

(d) The current permanent establishment, strength and number of vacancy of ISD's ITMU are as follows -

Rank	Establishment	Strength	Vacancy
Senior Systems Manager	1	1	0
Systems Manager	1	1	0
Analyst/Programmer I	1	1	0
Analyst/Programmer II	1	1	0
Computer Operator I	1	1	0
Computer Operator II	1	1	0
Total	6	6	0

The existing manpower of the ITMU is sufficient to handle the work in the coming year.

(e) The ITMU has been providing efficient services and support to meet ISD's operational needs. The Department will continue to monitor ITMU's efficacy so that ISD can ride on the development of information technology to enhance its services to the community.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Michael WONG

Post Title Director of Information Services

Date 18.3.2011