

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CEDB(CIT)300**

**(Question Serial No. 3535 )**

Head: (168) Hong Kong Observatory

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational Expenses

Programme: (1) Weather Services

Controlling Officer: Director of the Hong Kong Observatory ( SHUN Chi Ming )

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question:

In view of the global climate change in recent years and the increased probability of having extreme weather events, will the Hong Kong Observatory introduce more new forecasting techniques and increase manpower in 2016-07 so as to enhance its capability to forecast extreme weather? If yes, what are the specific work plan, the number and ranks of additional staff, and the breakdown of the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 265)

Reply:

The Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) will keep abreast of the latest development to enhance its forecasting techniques to meet the challenges of more extreme weather conditions brought by climate change. HKO will continue to exchange experience with meteorological institutes around the world over a whole range of subjects in weather monitoring, prediction and warnings. HKO will carry out the work with existing resources. This is part of HKO's on-going work and only involves existing manpower. As the expenditure has been subsumed into the provision for HKO, it is difficult to quantify it separately.

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