

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1892)

Head: (168) Hong Kong Observatory

Subhead (No. & title): (-) -

Programme: (2) Radiation Monitoring and Assessment

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding radiation monitoring and assessment:

- (1) what were the details of the work and the expenditure involved in operating a network of radiation monitoring stations in the past 5 years; and
- (2) what were the numbers and details of exercises and drills on radiation and nuclear emergencies in each of the past 5 years? Please specify the departments of the Hong Kong Government and the Guangdong Provincial Government involved in these exercises and drills. What were the respective expenditure and manning arrangements involved? The estimated number of exercises and drills in 2019 is 20, which is fewer than the numbers of exercises and drills in 2017 and 2018. What are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 223)

Reply:

- (1) In the past five years, the Observatory's work on the operation of the radiation monitoring network included equipment maintenance and checking, data collection and analysis, and compilation of reports. The Observatory utilizes its existing resources to carry out the related work. No additional expenditure is involved.
- (2) The Observatory routinely carries out internal drills and exercises on radiation monitoring and assessment, and participates in inter-departmental drills and exercises with relevant departments (including Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, Department of Health, Fire Services Department, Civil Aid Service and Government Flying Service). Besides, the Observatory also conducts monthly communication tests with relevant government departments, China Light and Power, and Nuclear Emergency Committee Office of Guangdong Province. The Observatory utilizes its existing resources

to carry out the above work and no additional expenditure is involved. The numbers of drills, exercises and communication tests held in the past five years are listed below:

| Year | Number of Drills and Exercises | Number of Communication Tests |
|------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2014 | 19 | 12 |
| 2015 | 19 | 12 |
| 2016 | 20 | 12 |
| 2017 | 22 | 12 |
| 2018 | 22 | 12 |

In 2017, the Observatory participated in the large-scale inter-departmental exercise "Checkerboard II" on the Daya Bay Contingency Plan. In 2018, the Observatory organized a workshop on nuclear accident consequence assessment and participated in the related drills and exercises. Therefore, the numbers of drills and exercises in these two years were slightly higher than those in the other years.

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