

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

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**(Question Serial No. 1982)**

Head: (168) Hong Kong Observatory

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

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:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2019-20, the Hong Kong Observatory will develop automatic forecast products for major cities and airports around the world. Please advise the specific work plan regarding the automatic forecast products, as well as the staffing establishment, posts, emoluments and operational expenses involved.

Asked by: Hon LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

The Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) is currently developing automatic weather forecast products for major cities and airports around the world, which will provide 7-day weather forecasts for more than 4 000 cities, tourist attractions and airports. The service is expected to be launched in the first quarter of 2020, and the public may then access the relevant forecasts through HKO's website and mobile app. HKO carries out such work with existing manpower and resources. As the expenditure has been subsumed into the provision for HKO, it is difficult to quantify the amount involved separately.

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