

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0257)

Head: (26) Census and Statistics Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (4) General Statistical Services

Controlling Officer: Commissioner for Census and Statistics (Leo YU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Question:

According to Programme (4), the work of the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) includes providing professional assistance to bureaux and departments in statistical work. In collaboration with the C&SD, the Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau has devised a domain of economic activities comprising Manufacturing and New Industrialisation-related Industries in Hong Kong and released statistics on the economic performance of relevant activities. What are the establishment and expenditure involved in the statistical work for this year?

The Government has stated that it will review the relevant statistical framework in a timely manner. Will the Government consider including offshore industrial sector in the domain of economic activities for the Manufacturing and New Industrialisation-related Industries, and commission the C&SD to conduct a comprehensive survey on these external manufacturing enterprises owned by Hong Kong by making reference to the statistical methodology used for the statistics on offshore trade and merchanting activities, with a view to developing regular statistical indicators on the offshore industrial sector for Hong Kong? If yes, what are the details, including the establishment and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 526)

Reply:

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) regularly conducts the Annual Survey of Economic Activities covering various economic sectors of Hong Kong, and based on the data collected compiles various statistics, including the statistics on economic performance of the Manufacturing and New Industrialisation-related Industries. We do not maintain itemised breakdown on the establishment and expenditure involved in the compilation of statistics of a specific sector.

Compiling statistics on economic performance of the Manufacturing and New Industrialisation-related Industries aims to reflect the economic performance of manufacturing and new industries within Hong Kong's territory. It should therefore not

include the offshore industrial economic activities. In addition, apart from compiling statistics on offshore trade and merchanting activities, C&SD also compiles statistics, such as number of companies, number of persons engaged, industry value added and sales revenue, relating to the sub-contracting of manufacturing processes by Hong Kong import/export trading companies to the Mainland and other regions. Although these companies are classified as import/export trading, the relevant statistics can still bring reference value to the offshore industrial economic activities. C&SD will review the relevant statistical framework and indicators as appropriate to ensure that they can effectively reflect the relevant economic activities.

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