

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CSTB279**

**(Question Serial No. 1031)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Vincent LIU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism

Question:

The Department will “launch a series of exhibitions and programmes on Chinese history and culture, including the history of the War of Resistance, as well as pop culture” in the coming year.

1. What are the contents, numbers and total expenditure of exhibitions and programmes on Chinese history and culture which involved government participation and support in the past 3 years?
2. What will be the estimated manpower and expenditure for promoting Chinese history and culture?
3. Will the Department collaborate with the Education Bureau and relevant Mainland authorities? If yes, what will be the manpower and expenditure earmarked for the purpose?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yung (LegCo internal reference no.: 10)

Reply:

1. The Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau has been promoting Chinese culture and history to the public including the young people through various channels to deepen their understanding of our country and enhance their sense of national identity.

The museums under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) enable the public to gain a better understanding of Chinese culture and history in a relaxed and pleasant environment through thematic exhibitions, public and educational programmes, as well as school and community activities. Relevant exhibitions held in the past 3 years included “Art of the South Nanling: A Selection of Guangdong Painting from the Hong Kong Museum of Art” and “#popcolours: The Aesthetics of Hues in Antiquities from the HKMoA Collection” in 2021; “Women and Femininity in Ancient China – Treasures from the Nanjing Museum”, “Dunhuang: Enchanting Tales for Millennium” and “Mastering Masterpieces: The Essentials of Chinese Landscape

Paintings” in 2022; and “China Manned Space Exhibition”, “A Tale of Three Cities: Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area and Export of Silk Products in the Ming and Qing” and “Genesis and Spirit – Tea for Harmony · Yaji Cultural Salon: Exhibition of the Tea Culture of Zhejiang” in 2023.

The Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) also organises book displays in different libraries to introduce their collections of books on Chinese culture and history, and hold extension activities for the public such as subject talks, fun workshops and thematic exhibitions. Relevant activities organised by the HKPL in the past 3 years included “Talk on Chinese Classics”, “Hok Hoi Lectures on Chinese Wisdom and Life Pursuits”, “Subject Talk Series on Hong Kong Memory”, “Heritage Talk Series”, “Chinese Poetry Writing Competition”, “Appreciation of Arts and Literature – Chinese Traditional Arts and Cultural Heritage in Hong Kong” Series and “Traditional Arts and Crafts @ North District”.

The many performing arts activities of the LCSD also showcase the rich and diverse Chinese culture and traditional arts in such areas as Chinese opera, music, film, and traditional handicraft. For example, in the past 3 years, “Chinese Film Panorama” “18dART Community Arts Scheme”, “Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme”, “Concert by Hong Kong City Chinese Orchestra”, touring programmes in Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, “Cantonese Opera Day” and lantern displays were held annually to cultivate and enhance the public’s interest in and knowledge about traditional Chinese arts.

In the past 3 years, the LCSD organised an average of about 900 sessions of exhibitions and activities related to Chinese culture and history annually. In 2023, the LCSD also launched a new Chinese History and Culture series on its Edutainment Channel, an online platform covering informative and learning materials on aspects of culture and leisure, with a view to giving the public an insight into the long-standing Chinese culture and history so as to enhance their national identity and sense of belonging.

Currently, the expenditure and manpower involved in the LCSD’s regular exhibitions and programmes to promote Chinese culture and history are all absorbed by the existing resources of the Department.

2. In addition to the current exhibitions and programmes on offer, the LCSD will also establish the Chinese Culture Promotion Office (CCPO) in April 2024, and launch various activities progressively to promote Chinese culture and history, including a “General History of China Exhibition Series” which gives a systematic introduction on Chinese historical development, a Teaching and Learning Series designed for teachers and students, a Community Series targeting all walks of life in the community, different forms of exchange activities on various themes, and a Chinese Culture Festival to be held from June to September annually. In response to the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China in 2024, the CCPO will launch the “Exhibition on the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People’s Republic of China” at the Hong Kong Science Museum and Hong Kong Museum of History to showcase our country’s development and achievements in such domains as culture, sports and science over the years. In 2024-25, the LCSD will receive additional funding

amounting to \$77.8 million and create 11 civil service posts for operating the CCPO and implementing the above initiatives.

3. The LCS D will continue to strengthen its co-operation with the Education Bureau by launching the “Train-the-Trainer Workshops” to provide schools with teaching resources and learning opportunities related to Chinese culture and history beyond the school curriculum. The LCS D will also continue to collaborate with different Mainland authorities to organise exhibitions and activities related to Chinese culture and history, including the following in the coming year: “War of Resistance Activities of East River Column in Shenzhen and Hong Kong Areas” (tentative) and “The 4th GBA Culture and Arts Festival – Shenzhen Opera & Dance Theatre *Wing Chun* Special Edition” co-organised with the Shenzhen Municipal Bureau of Culture, Sports, Tourism, Radio and Television, “The Ancient Civilisation of the Xia, Shang and Zhou Dynasties in Henan Province Exhibition” co-organised with Henan Museum, and “Fragrance of Time – In Search of Chinese Art of Scent Exhibition” co-organised with Shanghai Museum.

- End -