

Head 176 — SUBVENTIONS: MISCELLANEOUS

Controlling officers: expenditure under this Head will be accounted for as follows—

- Secretary for Trade and Industry (Subheads 437, 461, 457 and 420)
- Secretary for Security (Subhead 462)
- Secretary for Health and Welfare (Subheads 521, 528, 414, 460 and 864)
- Secretary for Education and Manpower (Subhead 527)
- Secretary for Home Affairs (Subhead 475)
- Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Subheads 503, 451, 502 and 948)
- Director of Administration (Subheads 446 and 925)

Estimate 2000–01	\$304.5m
Capital Account commitment balance	\$21.2m

These subheads are listed under their respective policy secretaries/controlling officers (in order of Policy Area and size of subvention) to emphasise the relevant accountability in the reports and analysis of financial provision.

Controlling Officers' Reports and Analysis of Financial Provision

This Head provides for subventions to a number of local organisations, and for Hong Kong's participation in a number of international organisations.

Policy Area 6: Trade and Industry

Secretary for Trade and Industry

Subhead 437 Hong Kong-Japan Business Co-operation Committee (HKJBCC)

2 Provision of \$3,610,000 is for subventing the Hong Kong-Japan Business Co-operation Committee, which was formed in 1979 to foster friendship and understanding between the business communities of Hong Kong and Japan and to promote trade, investment and economic co-operation.

3 Since its inception, the HKJBCC and its counterpart, the Japan-Hong Kong Business Co-operation Committee, have been meeting at least once a year alternately in Hong Kong and Japan to update and discuss trade and economic issues. Through its three Working Committees—on trade development, industrial development and communications—the HKJBCC has a regular programme of activities, including:

- commissioning and publication of market surveys;
- organising market exposition seminars in association with the Japan External Trade Organisation;
- arranging study-missions, purchasing-delegations and technology-exchange programmes designed to help Japanese industrialists gain a more comprehensive understanding of Hong Kong's business environment and manufacturing capabilities, and to encourage the transfer of advanced Japanese industrial production technologies to Hong Kong; and
- conducting media campaigns designed to highlight Hong Kong's attractions as a major manufacturing and financial centre in the region.

4 The activities of HKJBCC have played a role in contributing to increased exports to Japan and increased Japanese investment in Hong Kong.

5 The Hong Kong Trade Development Council (see Head 177—Subventions: Non-Departmental Public Bodies *Subhead 444*) will provide an additional \$2,757,000 to the Committee in 2000–01.

Subhead 461 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

6 Provision of \$377,000 is to meet the annual contribution for the 2000 calendar year towards the costs of the UNDP's activities benefiting Hong Kong and part of the operational costs of the UNDP field office which also deals with UNDP matters relating to Hong Kong. Hong Kong benefits from the UNDP in terms of overseas training and expert advisory and consultancy services.

Subhead 457 World Customs Organisation (WCO)

7 Provision of \$260,000 is to pay for Hong Kong's contribution to the 2000–01 WCO budget. The objectives of the WCO are to improve and rationalise customs operations and facilitate international trade.

Head 176 — SUBVENTIONS: MISCELLANEOUS

Subhead 420 Asian and Pacific Development Centre (APDC)

8 Provision of \$80,000 is to meet the annual contribution of US\$10,200 to the APDC. In contributing to APDC, Hong Kong is able to nominate participants to attend the training courses and seminars organised by the Centre, and benefit from the Centre's consultancy and information on development.

Policy Area 9: Internal Security

Secretary for Security

Subhead 462 United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) and World Health Organisation (WHO)

9 Provision of \$238,000 is to meet the annual contribution towards the UNDCP and the WHO in support of their activities to control drug trafficking and substance abuse.

Policy Area 14: Social Welfare

Secretary for Health and Welfare

Subhead 521 Skills centres

10 Provision of \$142,175,000 is for subventing on a deficiency basis five skills centres which provide vocational assessment and training services to people with disabilities over the age of 15. Key performance indicators are:

	<i>Academic Year</i>		
	1998/99 (Actual)	1999/2000 (Estimate)	2000/01 (Estimate)
no. of vocational assessments made			
comprehensive assessment programme	185	150	150
specific assessment programme	1 109	1 120	1 120
no. of training places			
full-time	1 001	1 121	1 157
part-time	360	360	360
no. of trainees enrolled			
full-time	1 000	1 113	1 157
part-time	393	360	360
no. of trainees completed training			
full-time	342	356	402
part-time	337	320	320

11 The overall performance of the skills centres in the 1999/2000 academic year is expected to be satisfactory. The number of full-time training places provided in 1999/2000 is projected to increase by 120 (12.0%) over that in 1998/99. The increase is due to the full implementation of the Pokfulam Skills Centre reprovisioning cum expansion project and the phased implementation of the Caritas Lok Mo Skills Centre reprovisioning project.

Subhead 528 Guardianship Board

12 Provision of \$5,480,000 is for the full-year provision of a Guardianship Board for mentally disordered and mentally handicapped persons under the Mental Health Ordinance (Cap. 136).

Subhead 414 Environmental Advisory Service

13 Provision of \$1,539,000 is for subventing on a discretionary basis the Environmental Advisory Service which provides specialist information and advice on ways to improve access facilities to meet the special needs of people with disabilities.

Subhead 460 United Nations Children's Fund

14 Provision of \$144,000 comprises a donation of \$96,000 towards the United Nations Children's Fund and a contribution of \$48,000 towards the Fund's administrative expenses in 2000-01. The Fund is the largest development organisation in the world that works for the well-being of children.

Head 176 — SUBVENTIONS: MISCELLANEOUS

Policy Area 16: Education

Secretary for Education and Manpower

Subhead 527 Open University of Hong Kong

15 Provision of \$1,100,000 is for the reimbursement of rates paid by the Open University of Hong Kong.

Policy Area 18: Recreation, Culture, Amenities and Entertainment Licensing

Secretary for Home Affairs

Subhead 475 Outward Bound Trust of Hong Kong

16 Provision of \$1,946,000 is to assist deserving underprivileged or disabled persons and young people at risk, who are unable to meet all or part of the course fees, to take courses at the Outward Bound School. The courses are designed to develop the character, community spirit and leadership qualities of the participants. The key performance measure is:

	1998 (Actual)	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Estimate)
number of deserving underprivileged or disabled persons and young people at risk assisted.....	605	548	580

Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Subhead 503 Subventions to non-government organisation camps

17 Provision of \$27,800,000 is to assist 25 holiday camps and water sports centres managed by 12 non-government organisations to provide recreational activities for members of the public. The subvention helps towards meeting operating expenses on staff costs, rents and rates, and minor repairs.

18 In 2000–01, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will continue to pay frequent visits to the 25 camps and centres and assist the 12 non-government organisations in maximising the utilisation of these facilities. The Camps and Hostels Management and Development Committee of the Department will also hold regular meetings with these organisations to exchange information and ideas. The Department will also attend meetings of the Co-ordinating Committee on Camps and Hostels of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service. Through these channels, the Department will maintain close contact with staff of these camps and centres, and will review their facilities, programmes and mode of operation, and recommend changes and improvements where necessary. The key performance measures are:

	1998 (Actual)	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Estimate)
number of non-government organisation camps subvented	25	25	25
average utilisation rate (%).....	53.6†	55.0	56.0
number of users	602 674	626 456	630 000

† Revised figure based on updated computer printout.

Subhead 451 Hong Kong Life Saving Society

19 Provision of \$601,000 is for subvention to the Hong Kong Life Saving Society to meet part of its administration expenses. The Society promotes interest in life saving work and water safety training in Hong Kong.

Subhead 502 Hong Kong Archaeological Society

20 Provision of \$173,000 is a discretionary grant to the Hong Kong Archaeological Society to meet the expenses incurred in connection with the excavation activities conducted for the study and preservation of Hong Kong's archaeological heritage.

Policy Area 20: Legal Aid

Director of Administration

Subhead 446 Duty Lawyer Service (DLS)

21 Provision of \$104,988,000 is for subventing the DLS in the implementation of three legal assistance schemes to complement the legal aid services provided by the Legal Aid Department. These schemes are the Duty Lawyer Scheme, the Legal Advice Scheme and the Tel-Law Scheme. The DLS, which was known as the Legal Advice and Duty Lawyer Scheme until its incorporation in August 1993, is managed by the Hong Kong Bar Association and the Law Society of Hong Kong through a Governing Council and is administered by an Administrator who is a legally qualified person.

Head 176 — SUBVENTIONS: MISCELLANEOUS

22 The Legal Aid Department provides legal representation in both civil and criminal cases heard in the District Court and above under the Legal Aid Ordinance and the Legal Aid in Criminal Cases Rules. To ensure access to justice on matters outside the jurisdiction of the Legal Aid Department, the Duty Lawyer Scheme provides legal representation to any defendant in Magistrates' Courts 'where the interests of justice require, and without payment by him in any such case if he does not have sufficient means to pay for it'. The Scheme also provides, either with the agreement or at the request of the Government, other forms of legal assistance and advice. These at present include assigning lawyers to advise defendants facing extradition, to monitor one-way viewer identification parades, to provide legal representation to Vietnamese Asylum Seekers to appeal to the Refugee Status Review Board concerning decisions on the determination of their refugee status and to represent hawkers upon their appeals to the Municipal Services Appeals Board.

23 The Legal Advice Scheme provides free legal advice without means testing at six evening centres at Sha Tin, Tsuen Wan, Wan Chai, Central and Western, Yau Tsim Mong and Kwun Tong District Offices. In addition, the Scheme provides advice at the offices of the Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres and the Hong Kong Federation of Women. Members of the public can make appointments to see volunteer lawyers through one of the 122 referral agencies which include all district offices and many voluntary agencies. The DLS has broadly achieved its target of arranging a client of the Scheme to see volunteer lawyers at a centre of his choice within two weeks upon confirmation of an appointment.

24 The Tel-Law Scheme is a 24-hour free telephone enquiry service which provides members of the public with basic information on the legal aspects of everyday problems. There are 71 tapes available in Cantonese and English, covering matrimonial, landlord and tenant, criminal, financial, employment and administrative law. For improvement of the service, taped legal information has also been made available in Putonghua, in addition to Cantonese and English, since August 1999.

25 The key performance measures of DLS are:

	1998 (Actual)	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Estimate)
number of persons who received legal advice and representation from the Duty Lawyer Scheme	36 767	38 111	41 922
cost per defendant under the Duty Lawyer Scheme (\$)	2,555.9	2,527.1	2,524.7
number of cases handled by the Legal Advice Scheme	5 769	5 901	6 078
cost per case under the Legal Advice Scheme (\$)	132.0	141.8	140.2
number of cases handled by the Tel-Law Scheme	94 436	78 953	78 953
cost per call under the Tel-Law Scheme (\$)	0.2	0.7	1.2

26 DLS will continue to be monitored closely to ensure a high level of usage of the services while maintaining quality of service and cost-effectiveness.

Head 176 — SUBVENTIONS: MISCELLANEOUS

Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 1998-99	Approved estimate 1999-2000	Revised estimate 1999-2000	Estimate 2000-01	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Recurrent Account					
V — Subventions					
414	Environmental Advisory Service	1,469	1,555	1,555	1,539
420	Asian and Pacific Development Centre.....	79	80	79	80
437	Hong Kong-Japan Business Co-operation Committee	3,610	3,610	3,610	3,610
446	Duty Lawyer Service.....	91,877	106,610	100,540	104,988
451	Hong Kong Life Saving Society	583	610	610	601
457	World Customs Organisation	156	260	260	260
460	United Nations Children's Fund	139	146	146	144
461	United Nations Development Programme.....	287	377	330	377
462	United Nations International Drug Control Programme and World Health Organisation..	240	240	240	238
475	Outward Bound Trust of Hong Kong.....	1,862	1,956	1,956	1,946
502	Hong Kong Archaeological Society.....	130	182	173	173
503	Subventions to non-government organisation camps	28,773	27,814	29,593	27,800
521	Skills centres	122,601	147,316	138,250	142,175
527	Open University of Hong Kong	806	1,266	900	1,100
528	Guardianship Board	1,118	4,723	4,638	5,480
	Action Committee Against Narcotics.....	4,087	4,307	4,307	—
	Total, Subventions	257,817	301,052	287,187	290,511
	Total, Recurrent Account.....	257,817	301,052	287,187	290,511
Capital Account					
III — Subventions					
864	Skills centres (block vote)	6,025	5,169	5,169	1,950
925	Duty Lawyer Service.....	1,888	244	399	2,250
948	Non-government organisation camps.....	1,466	3,080	3,939	9,792
	Fitting-out the office of the Guardianship Board	773	173	227	—
	One-off grant to the Open University of Hong Kong for the establishment of a Regional Learning Centre	—	—	50,000	—
	Sponsorship for hosting the 11th Regional Conference of Rehabilitation International in 1998.....	2,730	—	—	—
	One-off grant to the Student Loan Fund of the Open University of Hong Kong.....	50,000	—	—	—
	Grant to Employees Retraining Board	500,000	—	—	—
	Total, Subventions	562,882	8,666	59,734	13,992
	Total, Capital Account.....	562,882	8,666	59,734	13,992
	Total Expenditure	820,699	309,718	346,921	304,503

Head 176 — SUBVENTIONS: MISCELLANEOUS

Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2000–01 for subventing or subscribing to the various organisations and institutions in Hong Kong and overseas under this Head is \$304,503,000 including recurrent and capital subventions. This represents a decrease of \$42,418,000 against the revised estimate for 1999–2000 and of \$516,196,000 against actual expenditure in 1998–99. Details of expenditure in respect of subheads where there are significant increases or decreases in provision are described hereunder.

Recurrent Account

Subventions

2 Provision of \$104,988,000 under *Subhead 446 Duty Lawyer Service* represents an increase of \$4,448,000 (4.4%) over the revised estimate for 1999–2000. This is mainly due to salary increments for existing staff and additional provision for duty lawyer fees to cope with the increasing caseload at Magistrates' Courts corresponding to a higher crime rate.

3 Provision of \$377,000 under *Subhead 461 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)* represents an increase of \$47,000 (14.2%) over the revised estimate for 1999–2000. This is mainly due to an anticipated increase in Hong Kong's share of the operating cost of the UNDP field office.

4 Provision of \$27,800,000 under *Subhead 503 Subventions to non-government organisation camps* represents a decrease of \$1,793,000 (6.1%) against the revised estimate for 1999–2000. This is mainly due to the provision of additional funds in 1999–2000 to cover salary increments of staff.

5 Provision of \$1,100,000 under *Subhead 527 Open University of Hong Kong* represents an increase of \$200,000 (22.2%) over the revised estimate for 1999–2000. This is mainly due to the lower than estimated requirement in 1999–2000 as a result of the concession on rates for the quarter July – September 1999.

6 Provision of \$5,480,000 under *Subhead 528 Guardianship Board* represents an increase of \$842,000 (18.2%) over the revised estimate for 1999–2000. This is mainly due to inclusion of an end-of-contract gratuity of \$767,400 for the Chairperson and salary increments for staff of the Guardianship Board.

7 Provision for the Action Committee Against Narcotics, hitherto accounted for under this Head, is transferred to Head 151—Government Secretariat: Security Bureau from 1 April 2000.

Capital Account

Subventions

8 Provision of \$1,950,000 under *Subhead 864 Skills centres (block vote)* is for the installation of a multi-media language system and provision of Internet and Intranet services for Kwun Tong Skills Centre and Tuen Mun Skills Centre; installation of an emergency alarm system for all dormitories in Tuen Mun Skills Centre; and a vocational interest, temperament and aptitude system for vocational assessment. The decrease of \$3,219,000 (62.3%) against the revised estimate for 1999–2000 is mainly due to the special expenditure in 1999–2000 for electrical rewiring maintenance works in a skills centre and renovation works of three workshops for new courses.

Head 176 — SUBVENTIONS: MISCELLANEOUS

Capital Account

Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.99	Revised estimated expenditure for 1999–2000	Balance
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
925		<i>Duty Lawyer Service</i>				
	071	Renovation works at the Eastern Law Court Building	1,201	1,064	116	21
	081	Renovation works for the South Kowloon Court Liaison Office	366	172	125	69
	085	Renovation of Tsuen Wan Court Liaison Office	6,500	—	—	6,500
			<u>8,067</u>	<u>1,236</u>	<u>241</u>	<u>6,590</u>
948		<i>Non-government organisation camps</i>				
	022	Renovating the camps operated by the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups	3,187	1,053	585	1,549
	023	Renovating the camps operated by the Hong Kong Red Cross	1,289	913	83	293
	024	Renovating the camps operated by the Chinese Young Men's Christian Association	8,365	3,796	325	4,244
	025	Renovating the camps operated by the Scout Association of Hong Kong	5,641	3,975	439	1,227
	026	Renovating the camp operated by the Hong Kong Award for Young People	1,465	448	321	696
	027	Renovating the camps operated by the Caritas—Hong Kong	4,206	2,175	288	1,743
	028	Renovating the camp operated by the Hong Kong Girl Guides Association ..	2,036	64	410	1,562
	029	Renovating the camp operated by the Hong Kong PHAB Association	1,015	840	18	157
	030	Renovating the camp operated by the Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association	1,616	1,211	74	331
	031	Renovating the camp operated by the Salvation Army	3,592	444	1,032	2,116
	032	Renovating the camp operated by the Hong Kong Playground Association ..	2,749	1,718	364	667
			<u>35,161</u>	<u>16,637</u>	<u>3,939</u>	<u>14,585</u>
		Total	<u><u>43,228</u></u>	<u><u>17,873</u></u>	<u><u>4,180</u></u>	<u><u>21,175</u></u>