

**Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT:
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

Controlling officer: the Commissioner for Innovation and Technology will account for expenditure under this Head.

Estimate 2026–27	\$2,515.9m
Establishment ceiling 2026–27 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 346 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2026 reducing by 21 posts to 325 posts as at 31 March 2027.....	\$281.1m
In addition, there will be an estimated ten directorate posts as at 31 March 2026 and 31 March 2027.	
Commitment balance	\$6,083.6m

Controlling Officer’s Report

Programmes

<p>Programme (1) Support for Research and Development</p> <p>Programme (2) Promotion of Technological Entrepreneurship</p> <p>Programme (3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development</p> <p>Programme (4) Infrastructural Support</p> <p>Programme (5) Quality Support</p>	<p>These programmes contribute to Policy Area 17: Information Technology and Broadcasting (Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry).</p> <p>This programme contributes to Policy Area 15: Health (Secretary for Health) and Policy Area 17: Information Technology and Broadcasting (Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry).</p> <p>This programme contributes to Policy Area 17: Information Technology and Broadcasting (Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry).</p>
<p>Programme (6) Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited</p>	<p>This programme contributes to Policy Area 17: Information Technology and Broadcasting (Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry).</p>

Detail

Programme (1): Support for Research and Development

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	118.9	121.3	115.6 (–4.7%)	112.2 (–2.9%)
				(or –7.5% on 2025–26 Original)

Aim

2 The aim is to promote and support applied research and development (R&D) activities which can contribute to innovation and technology (I&T) upgrading in the industry.

Brief Description

3 The Commission achieves this aim by providing funding support and putting in place appropriate infrastructural facilities to encourage applied R&D activities. Under the Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF), the Innovation and Technology Support Programme (ITSP) supports applied R&D projects with a view to transferring the R&D results to companies in the relevant industry. The Partnership Research Programme (PRP), which aims to support collaboration between industries and research institutes on applied R&D projects, has been subsumed under the ITSP in 2025 as both ITSP and PRP share similarities in objectives and target beneficiaries. The Guangdong-Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme (TCFS) and the Mainland-Hong Kong Joint Funding Scheme (MHKJFS), both supporting and encouraging R&D collaboration among universities, research institutes and technology enterprises in Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland, have been merged as the Mainland-Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme (MHKTCFS) in 2025. The Public Sector Trial Scheme (PSTS) supports the production of prototypes/samples and/or conducting of trials in the public sector to promote the realisation and commercialisation of local R&D results. The Commission also administers the Patent Application Grant (PAG) to provide funding assistance to local companies and individuals applying for patent registration of their own inventions for the first time. PAG was integrated into other existing ITF funding schemes on 1 August 2025.

Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

4 Five R&D centres have been established to drive and co-ordinate R&D efforts in the following focus areas, namely nanotechnology and advanced materials, textiles and clothing, logistics and supply chain management enabling technologies, information and communications technologies, and microelectronics. The R&D projects carried out by these centres, except for those contract researches the full costs of which are borne by sponsoring companies, are funded mainly by the ITF. The Nano and Advanced Materials Institute (NAMI) will be merged with the Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI) with effect from 1 April 2026.

5 Funding is provided for State Key Laboratories in Hong Kong and Hong Kong Branches of Chinese National Engineering Research Centres to enhance their research capabilities. Financial support is also provided for designated universities to enhance their technology transfer capabilities.

6 Under the R&D Cash Rebate Scheme, companies participating in ITF-funded R&D projects or conducting R&D projects in partnership with designated local public research institutes enjoy a cash rebate of 40 per cent on their investments. The R&D Cash Rebate Scheme has been consolidated with the ITSP under the ITF since 1 August 2025 for continued provision of funding for R&D projects.

7 To assist more local technology companies in realising and commercialising their R&D outcomes and encourage public sector organisations to utilise more local R&D outcomes, the scope of funding of the PSTS has been extended to cover all technology companies conducting R&D activities in Hong Kong since March 2020.

8 Companies can claim enhanced tax deduction for expenditure on qualifying R&D activities incurred on or after 1 April 2018. The Commissioner for Innovation and Technology is responsible for designating qualified local research institutions as “designated local research institution” (DLRI) under the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112).

9 The Commission launched the Innovation Hub@HK in August 2022 with the aim of showcasing the R&D outcomes of universities and research institutes of Hong Kong. The website provides a one-stop platform to connect universities, research institutes and the industry to facilitate commercialisation and technology transfer of R&D outcomes.

10 The Commission launched the Frontier Technology Research Support Scheme (FTRSS) in September 2025 to assist, on a matching basis, eight University Grants Committee-funded universities in recruiting international top-notch talents to Hong Kong and procuring facilities to conduct research projects in frontier technology fields.

11 The performance under this programme is indicated by the extent to which the applied R&D activities receiving funding support are of relevance to the industry and the extent to which the R&D centres accomplish their research programmes effectively. Performance indicators in respect of the ITSP, TCFS, MHKJFS, MHKTCFS, PRP, University-Industry Collaboration Programme (UICP), Midstream Research Programme for Universities (MRP), PSTS, PAG, R&D centres and R&D Cash Rebate Scheme are as follows:

Indicators

	2024 (Actual)	2025 (Actual)	2026 (Estimate)
ITSPΨ			
applications received and processed	20λ	738§	579§
projects funded and being monitored.....	276	528§	558§
TCFSΨ			
applications received and processed	474	N.A.φ	N.A.φ
projects funded and being monitored.....	143	N.A.φ	N.A.φ
MHKJFSΨ			
applications received and processed	371	N.A.φ	N.A.φ
projects funded and being monitored.....	112	N.A.φ	N.A.φ
MHKTCFSΨ			
applications received and processed	N.A.φ	937φ	797φ
projects funded and being monitored.....	N.A.φ	293φ	300φ
PRPΨ			
applications received and processed	78	N.A.§	N.A.§
projects funded and being monitored.....	169	N.A.§	N.A.§
UICP			
projects funded and being monitored.....	19	N.A.∧	N.A.∧
MRP			
projects funded and being monitored.....	43	N.A.∧	N.A.∧
PSTSΨ			
applications received and processed	19	27	27
projects funded and being monitored.....	70	69	66
PAG			
applications received and processed	200	243	N.A.η
projects funded.....	110	110	105

**Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT:
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

	2024 (Actual)	2025 (Actual)	2026 (Estimate)
R&D centres' projects			
Centre of Advanced Power and Autonomous Systems			
new projects	23	14	N.A.Ω
projects funded and being monitored.....	94	100	90Ω
ASTRIAΔ			
R&D in information and communications technologies			
new projects	55	35	43
projects funded and being monitored.....	139	139	137
R&D in nano and advanced materials			
new projects	32	46	54
projects funded and being monitored.....	171	179	210
Logistics and Supply Chain MultiTech R&D Centre			
new projects	20	31	31
projects funded and being monitored.....	80	87	97
Hong Kong Microelectronics Research and Development Institute (MRDI)Φ			
new projects	N.A.	2	15
projects funded and being monitored.....	N.A.	2	16
Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel			
new projects	20	14ω	19
projects funded and being monitored.....	79	75ω	63ω
R&D Cash Rebate Schemeφ			
applications received and processed	318	390	390
applications approved	327	319	319

Ψ The figures do not include applications submitted or projects undertaken by the R&D centres, which are reported under the indicator “R&D centres’ projects”.

λ In 2024, the Commission received 20 applications for ITSP Special Call on Aerospace Technology, which was launched in July 2024. The 2024–25 round of application for ITSP (Platform & Seed) was closed at the end of February 2025 and application(s) received and processed thereunder were reported under 2025 (Actual).

§ PRP was subsumed under ITSP in 2025. All PRP applications and projects funded and being monitored have been included under the indicator “ITSP” from 2025 onwards.

φ TCFS and MHKJFS were merged as MHKTCFS in 2025. All applications and projects funded and being monitored under the two schemes have been included under the new indicator “MHKTCFS” from 2025 onwards.

^ All UICP and MRP projects funded and being monitored have been included under the indicator “ITSP” from 2025 onwards.

η PAG was integrated into other existing ITF funding schemes on 1 August 2025.

Ω As the Centre of Advanced Power and Autonomous Systems (formerly known as Automotive Platforms and Application Systems R&D Centre) was incorporated into the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) in April 2025, all new projects funded on or after 1 April 2025 are included under HKPC. Meanwhile, the Commission will continue to monitor projects funded prior to the incorporation.

Δ ASTRI will be merged with NAMI with effect from 1 April 2026.

Φ New indicators adopted from 2025 onwards. MRDI, established in September 2024, is taking forward the installation of two pilot lines at the Microelectronics Centre in Yuen Long, which are expected to commence operation in 2026. Following the full operation of the pilot lines, MRDI will launch more semiconductor-related R&D projects.

ω Due to uncertain economic outlook induced by the external environment, the textile and clothing sector is facing challenges, resulting in a lower estimate for new projects.

φ R&D Cash Rebate Scheme has been consolidated with the ITSP under the ITF since 1 August 2025 for continued provision of funding for R&D projects.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27

12 During 2026–27, the Commission will:

- continue to administer the various funding programmes and monitor progress of the funded projects;
- continue to support the activities of the R&D centres with emphasis on commercialisation and technology transfer of funded projects;
- drive MRDI to complete the installation of two pilot lines and commence their operation;
- continue to process applications for designation as DLRIs; and
- continue to promote the Innovation Hub@HK and enrich its contents with more R&D outcomes.

Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

Programme (2): Promotion of Technological Entrepreneurship

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	45.7	68.1	51.8 (–23.9%)	65.5 (+26.4%)
				(or –3.8% on 2025–26 Original)

Aim

13 The aim is to promote technological entrepreneurship in Hong Kong and provide essential support to technology-based entrepreneurial activities and technology R&D in the private sector.

Brief Description

14 To encourage more private sector investment in R&D, the Commission launched in April 2015 the Enterprise Support Scheme (ESS) under the ITF to replace the Small Entrepreneur Research Assistance Programme (SERAP). The ESS provides funding support to companies of all sizes incorporated in Hong Kong to carry out R&D.

15 The Commission administers the Technology Start-up Support Scheme for Universities (TSSSU). The TSSSU provides funding to six local universities to support their teams to start technology businesses and commercialise their R&D results. In addition, the Commission works closely with the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) which operates various support programmes as well as its Corporate Venture Fund to provide funding and other support for technology start-ups at different stages of operation.

16 To stimulate private sector investments in I&T start-ups in Hong Kong, the Commission administers the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF) to co-invest with venture capital funds selected as co-investment partners (CPs) in eligible local I&T start-ups. To enhance Hong Kong’s start-up ecosystem, the Commission invites fund managers to raise market capital, in order to set up funds jointly with the market, on a matching basis, to invest in start-ups of strategic industries.

17 To incentivise collaboration among industry, academic and research sectors to further promote the transformation of R&D outcomes “from 1 to N” and the industry development, the Commission launched the “Research, Academic and Industry Sectors One-plus Scheme” (RAISE+ Scheme) in October 2023 to fund, on a matching basis, university research teams with potential to become I&T start-ups.

18 To dovetail with the national strategy of developing “patient capital” and further promote the effective collaboration among the Government, industry, academia, research and investment sectors, the Commission has commenced the preparatory work for the Innovation and Technology Industry-Oriented Fund (ITIF) and invited applications for becoming fund managers of ITIF from November 2025 to January 2026, which gives play to the guiding and leveraging roles of Government funding, so as to channel more social capital to invest in I&T industries and support the development of emerging and future industries of strategic importance.

19 To attract professional start-up service providers to set up accelerator bases in Hong Kong, the Commission launched the three-year Pilot I&T Accelerator Scheme (PITAS) in January 2026 to provide subsidy, on a matching basis, to I&T accelerators.

20 During 2025–26, the Commission:

- administered the ESS, the TSSSU and the RAISE+ Scheme;
- administered and enhanced the ITVF, including selecting suitable fund managers to set up funds jointly with the market under the ITVF enhanced scheme;
- launched the PITAS; and
- commenced preparatory work for the ITIF.

**Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT:
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

21 The key performance indicators are:

Indicators

	2024 (Actual)	2025 (Actual)	2026 (Estimate)
SERAP ^μ projects being monitored.....	9	N.A.	N.A.
ESS applications received and processed	92	113	113
projects funded and being monitored.....	71	66	64

^μ Applications for SERAP were closed on 28 April 2015 and the remaining nine projects being monitored were closed in 2024.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27

22 During 2026–27, the Commission will continue to:

- administer the ESS, the TSSSU, the RAISE+ Scheme and the PITAS;
- administer the ITVF, including setting up funds jointly with the market to invest, on a matching basis, in start-ups of strategic industries under the ITVF enhanced scheme;
- oversee the administration of the Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park (HSITP) Incubation Support Programme for Life and Health Technology Start-ups; and
- take forward the ITIF and select suitable fund managers to set up sub-funds, with a view to launching the fund in 2026–27.

Programme (3): Planning for Innovation and Technology Development

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	105.5	112.2	75.7 (–32.5%)	67.5 (–10.8%)
				(or –39.8% on 2025–26 Original)

Aim

23 The aim is to support the formulation and co-ordination of I&T policies, enhance public awareness of I&T and promote technology adoption.

Brief Description

24 The Commission supports technology co-operation with the Chinese Mainland and overseas economies, and participates in relevant regional and international activities which help promote I&T.

25 To enhance public awareness and understanding of the importance of I&T, the Commission organises promotional events locally and administers the General Support Programme (GSP) under the ITF to fund projects such as seminars, exhibitions, promotion of popular science and technology competitions for students which help foster an I&T culture in the community.

26 To promote new industrialisation in Hong Kong, the Commission administers the New Industrialisation Funding Scheme (NIFS) which aims to subsidise manufacturers, on a matching basis, to set up new smart production lines in Hong Kong. Besides, the Commission administers the New Industrialisation Acceleration Scheme (NIAS) to provide funding support on a matching basis for enterprises engaging in industries of strategic importance (i.e. life and health technology, artificial intelligence and data science, as well as advanced manufacturing and new energy technologies) to set up new smart production facilities in Hong Kong. Companies funded under the NIAS may receive funding support under the Research Talent Hub (RTH) for the recruitment of more research talents to conduct R&D work and employ non-local technical personnel who possess the required skills/know-how and relevant experience in setting up and operating new production facilities to work in Hong Kong through the Technology Talent Admission Scheme (TechTAS). To encourage more enterprises to set up new smart production facilities in Hong Kong, the Commission has relaxed the application threshold for the NIAS and provides the enterprises with funding on a matching basis for the employment of relevant technical personnel with effect from November 2025.

Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

27 The Commission launched the Pilot Manufacturing and Production Line Upgrade Support Scheme (Manufacturing+) in November 2025 to provide funding support for enterprises operating production lines in Hong Kong, on a matching basis, to support their formulation of smart production strategies and introduction of advanced technologies into existing production lines.

28 The Innovation and Technology Fund for Better Living (FBL), launched by the former Innovation and Technology Bureau in May 2017 and transferred to the ITF in June 2021, aims to fund I&T projects which will make people's daily life more convenient, comfortable and safer, or address the needs of specific community groups. In order to make more effective use of the ITF in supporting Hong Kong's I&T development, FBL ceased accepting applications from January 2025 onwards.

29 The Commission also administers four programmes to pool together and nurture technology talents:

- Launched in July 2020, the RTH merged the former Researcher Programme and Postdoctoral Hub to provide financial support for eligible organisations/companies to engage research talents to carry out R&D work. It aims to provide opportunities for graduates from tertiary institutions to acquire research and industrial experience, stimulate the interest of graduates in applied R&D activities and help nurture a larger pool of research talents;
- the STEM Internship Scheme subsidises university students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines to gain I&T-related work experience through participation in short-term full-time internships, so as to enlarge the local I&T talent pool;
- the TechTAS provides a fast-track arrangement for eligible companies to admit overseas and Mainland technology talents to undertake R&D work for them in Hong Kong; and
- the New Industrialisation and Technology Training Programme (NITTP) subsidises local companies to train their staff in advanced technologies.

30 During 2025–26, the Commission:

- enhanced technology co-operation with the Chinese Mainland at the central, regional, provincial and municipal levels through various co-operation mechanisms, including the Mainland/Hong Kong Science and Technology Co-operation Committee and the Guangdong/Hong Kong Expert Group on Co-operation in Technology and Innovation;
- organised exhibitions and workshops as well as sponsored competitions to promote I&T culture and popular science to different sectors of the community through the GSP;
- sponsored and supported the Innovation and Technology Scholarship to nurture young talents to become future leaders in I&T;
- administered the Technology Voucher Programme (TVP) to support enterprises to improve productivity. TVP ceased accepting new applications after 31 December 2024. The vetting of applications received before the cut-off date was completed in 2025;
- administered the STEM Internship Scheme to provide allowance to STEM university students to undertake short-term full-time internships in I&T-related work;
- conducted the nomination exercise for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in two categories of the State Science and Technology Awards, namely the State Technological Invention Award and the State Scientific and Technological Progress Award;
- organised the nine-day InnoCarnival in October 2025;
- organised the second City I&T Grand Challenge with the Showcase held in October 2025 to demonstrate the prototypes of winning solutions through simulated scenarios; and
- enhanced the TechTAS further in December 2025 by lifting the requirement on talents to conduct R&D activities in designated technology areas, streamlining the procedures for applying quotas and visas, and extending the dedicated application channel to enterprises in the HSITP.

**Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT:
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

31 The key performance indicators are:

Indicators

	2024 (Actual)	2025 (Actual)	2026 (Estimate)
GSP			
applications received and processed	212 ^μ	145 ^μ	145 ^μ
projects funded and being monitored.....	299	355	400
FBL			
applications received and processed	118	N.A.#	N.A.#
projects funded and being monitored.....	40	26	17
RTH			
applications received and processed	3 117	3 404	4 073
research talent positions funded.....	4 777	4 959	5 400
NITTP			
applications received and processed	3 202 ^ε	2 099 ^ε	2 099 ^ε
trainings funded.....	4 149 ^ε	3 423 ^ε	3 423 ^ε
TVP			
applications received and processed	6 700	7 273 ^ρ	N.A. ^ρ
projects funded and being monitored.....	28 893	25 478	18 296
NIFS			
applications received and processed	30	12	19
projects funded and being monitored.....	40	56	81
NIAS ^Ψ			
applications received and processed	0	5	12
projects funded and being monitored.....	0	1	14
Manufacturing+ [⊕]			
applications received and processed	N.A.	0	100
projects funded and being monitored.....	N.A.	0	70

^μ Driven by the current government's focus on promoting popular science, the numbers of applications received and processed in 2024 increased drastically as compared with previous years. The application number in 2025 has decreased to a level comparable to previous years and is expected to remain steady in 2026.

FBL ceased accepting new applications from January 2025 onwards.

^ε The Commission introduced enhancement measures for NITTP in August 2025. It is expected that application numbers and trainings funded will remain steady in 2026.

^ρ TVP ceased accepting new applications after 31 December 2024. The vetting of applications received before the cut-off date was completed in 2025.

^Ψ The NIAS was launched in September 2024.

[⊕] New indicators adopted from 2025 onwards. The Manufacturing+, which was launched in November 2025, is expected to receive applications in 2026.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27

32 During 2026–27, the Commission will:

- continue to administer the RTH, STEM Internship Scheme and TechTAS;
- continue to strengthen technology co-operation with the Chinese Mainland under various co-operation mechanisms;
- continue to administer the GSP, NIFS, NIAS, NITTP and Manufacturing+, and monitor progress of the funded projects of the above funding programmes and TVP;
- continue to promote an I&T culture and popular science to the general public and nurture more young innovators;
- nominate entries for the State Science and Technology Awards upon the invitation of the National Office for Science and Technology Awards; and
- continue to organise promotional and educational activities to enhance public awareness of I&T development.

**Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT:
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

Programme (4): Infrastructural Support

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	71.0	1,880.1	80.8 (–95.7%)	1,877.3 (+2 223.4%)
				(or –0.1% on 2025–26 Original)

Aim

33 The aim is to develop world-class support infrastructure to facilitate technological upgrading and development of the I&T industry and to promote I&T.

Brief Description

34 The Commission achieves the aim through planning, supporting and overseeing technological infrastructural projects; and actively participating in the formulation and implementation of policies by other government bureaux and departments which impinge on I&T development in Hong Kong. The Commission works closely with relevant organisations such as the HKSTPC, Hong Kong-Shenzhen Innovation and Technology Park Limited (HSITPL), ASTRI, MRDI and HKPC in the process.

35 During 2025–26, the Commission:

- worked closely with the HKSTPC on various initiatives, including Stage 2 of the Science Park Expansion Programme and the Microelectronics Centre in the Yuen Long InnoPark;
- completed the scientific review of the R&D centres under the InnoHK research clusters as well as the renewal arrangement with the R&D centres which had passed the review to commence their second five-year funding period, so as to support the continued development of the research clusters; and funded the Hong Kong Space Robotics and Energy Centre under the InnoHK research clusters to participate in the Chang'E-8 mission, contributing to national aerospace development;
- continued to take forward the establishment of the third InnoHK research cluster which focuses on sustainable development, energy, advanced manufacturing and materials, with a view to attracting world-class R&D teams to collaborate with local institutions, promoting R&D and bringing in talents;
- continued to take forward the preparatory work for the setting up of life and health technology research institute(s) in order to promote the development of life and health technology in Hong Kong;
- worked closely with the HSITPL on the development of the HSITP in the Loop;
- worked closely with the ASTRI and NAMI in preparing for the planned merger of the two R&D Centres on 1 April 2026; and
- monitored the delivery of value-added support services to the advanced manufacturing and related service industries by the HKPC.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27

36 During 2026–27, the Commission will:

- continue to oversee the work of the InnoHK R&D Centres in two InnoHK research clusters, namely Health@InnoHK and AIR@InnoHK, to promote global research collaboration in Hong Kong;
- expedite the development of the third InnoHK research cluster which focuses on sustainable development, energy, advanced manufacturing and materials, with a view to expanding its world-class R&D collaboration and enhancing the R&D development of Hong Kong. The R&D centres under the cluster will be set up progressively starting from the first half of 2026;
- continue to work on the setting up of life and health technology research institute(s) in order to promote the development of life and health technology in Hong Kong. The preparatory work for the establishment of the life and health technology research institute(s) will be completed within 2026;
- continue to work closely with the HKSTPC on various initiatives, including increasing the supply of advanced manufacturing space in InnoParks and the planning of 20 hectares of new I&T land in San Tin Technopole;
- continue to work closely with the HSITPL to take forward the development of the HSITP; and
- continue to work closely with the MRDI and HKSTPC on the planning and installation of pilot lines at the Microelectronics Centre.

Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

Programme (5): Quality Support

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	148.3	180.3	165.9 (–8.0%)	180.4 (+8.7%)
				(or +0.1% on 2025–26 Original)

Aim

37 The aim is to promote internationally accepted standards and conformity assessment services to underpin technological development and international trade, and the development of the testing and certification (T&C) sector in Hong Kong.

Brief Description

38 The Commission achieves this aim through the operation of the Standards and Calibration Laboratory (SCL), the Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS), the Secretariat of the Hong Kong Council for Testing and Certification (HKCTC) and the provision of standard-related services.

39 SCL is the official custodian of physical measurement reference standards. Through participation in Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) drawn up by the International Committee for Weights and Measures (CIPM), SCL's calibration certificates are accepted worldwide.

40 Through the MRAs signed with international and regional organisations of accreditation bodies, the endorsed test reports and accredited certificates issued by organisations accredited by the HKAS under the Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (HOKLAS), the Hong Kong Certification Body Accreditation Scheme (HKCAS) and the Hong Kong Inspection Body Accreditation Scheme (HKIAS) are recognised worldwide.

41 During 2025–26,

- SCL provided calibration services traceable to the International System of Units and proficiency testing services, and participated in the following international metrology activities to substantiate its CIPM MRA status:
 - inter-laboratory comparisons of measurement standards;
 - peer reviews of the capabilities and quality systems of other CIPM MRA partners;
 - presenting SCL's technical achievements at international conferences and journals;
 - participating in the 150th anniversary conference and technical seminars of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM); and
 - participating in the 41st General Assembly and related meetings of the Asia Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP);
- HKAS provided accreditation services to laboratories, certification bodies and inspection bodies according to international standards and participated in international and regional accreditation co-operation bodies, namely the Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC), the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated, to maintain its MRA status for worldwide recognition of endorsed reports and certificates issued by HKAS accredited organisations;
- HKAS provided standards sales and technical enquiry services as well as participated in international and regional fora, including the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance, the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) and Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC), on standards and conformance matters; and
- the Secretariat of the HKCTC continued to provide support to the HKCTC in implementing measures to support the development of the T&C sector and organising the 2025–26 T&C Manpower Development Award Scheme to recognise T&C bodies which attach great importance to talent training as well as to commend T&C practitioners who have excelled themselves in the profession.

**Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT:
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

42 The key performance measures for the SCL, HKAS and standard-related services are:

Targets

	Target	2024 (Actual)	2025 (Actual)	2026 (Plan)
processing of quotation for calibration services within two working days (%).....	97	99	99	97
calibration of equipment within 13 working days (%)	95	99	99	95
processing of technical enquiries on product standards within one working day (%)	95	96	99	95
processing of quotations on standards within one working day (%)	100	100	100	100
processing of orders for licensed reproduction of standards within two working days (%)	100	100	100	100
issue of letter for confirming accreditation assessments within four working days (%).....	90	95	98	90
publishing updated information of accredited organisations on website within four working days (%).....	90	96	99	90

Indicators

	2024 (Actual)	2025 (Actual)	2026 (Estimate)
SCL			
calibrations and proficiency tests performed	1 084	728ε	950φ
revenue generated (\$)	4,773,991	3,121,888ε	4,250,000φ
SCL's overseas CIPM MRA partners (cumulative)φ.....	102	102	102
Standard-related services			
technical enquiries received	113	117	110
sales of standards			
enquiries received.....	89	76	80
quotations given	758	696	730
orders placed	74	59	60
revenue generated (\$).....	37,400	41,250	39,000
HOKLAS			
accredited laboratories (cumulative)	233	229ρ	230
newly accredited laboratories.....	8	7	5
assessments, re-assessments and surveillance visits conducted.....	306	329	300
overseas laboratory accreditation schemes entered into MRA with the HOKLAS (cumulative).....	114	118	118
HKCAS			
accredited certification bodies (cumulative)	27	27	27
newly accredited certification bodies	1	0	0
assessments, re-assessments and surveillance visits conducted.....	66	70	66
overseas certification bodies accreditation schemes entered into MRA with the HKCAS (cumulative)	86	91	91

**Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT:
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

	2024 (Actual)	2025 (Actual)	2026 (Estimate)
HKIAS.....			
accredited inspection bodies (cumulative).....	27	29	30
newly accredited inspection bodies.....	4	2	1
assessments, re-assessments and surveillance visits conducted.....	36	38	38
overseas inspection bodies accreditation schemes entered into MRA with the HKIAS (cumulative).....	88	93	93

ε The decrease in both the number of calibrations and proficiency tests performed and the revenue generated in 2025 was mainly due to the relocation of the laboratory in the second quarter to the fourth quarter of 2025. After the relocation, the equipment had to be reinstated, and professional accreditation was required for the laboratory before putting into service. To minimise the impact on service users, SCL had announced the relocation schedule in advance and made suitable arrangements to facilitate their early planning of the use of calibration service.

φ As calibration and proficiency test services need to be resumed gradually, it is anticipated that the number of services to be performed and the revenue estimate in 2026 will not fully return to the level observed in 2024.

φ This indicator provides information on the extent of international recognition of SCL's measurement standards and calibration certificates. These figures include all CIPM MRA partners, which comprise overseas national metrology institutes and four international organisations, namely International Atomic Energy Agency, European Commission – Joint Research Centre, World Meteorological Organisation and European Space Agency.

ρ The figure has taken into account 11 laboratories which ceased accreditation in 2025.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27

43 During 2026–27, the Commission will continue to:

- provide support to the HKCTC in implementing measures to support the development of the T&C sector;
- develop plans to extend accreditation services to new areas to support the industry and meet the market needs; and continue to work closely with the HKCTC to promote existing accreditation services to the industry;
- provide calibration and proficiency testing services;
- participate in international metrology activities of CIPM and APMP;
- participate in APEC, ISO and PASC activities relating to standardisation;
- provide accreditation services under the HOKLAS, HKCAS and HKIAS; and
- participate in the activities of the APAC, the ILAC, the IAF and the Global Accreditation Cooperation Incorporated to maintain the MRA status of the HKAS.

Programme (6): Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)				
Hong Kong Productivity Council	224.8	217.4	217.4 (—)	213.0 (–2.0%)
				(or –2.0% on 2025–26 Original)
Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited	160.4	—	—	—
Total	385.2	217.4	217.4 (—)	213.0 (–2.0%)
				(or –2.0% on 2025–26 Original)

Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

HKPC

Aim

44 The aim is to promote productivity excellence through the provision of integrated support across the value chain of the industry, in order to achieve more effective utilisation of resources, enhance the value-added content of products and services, and enhance the industry's competitiveness and sustainability.

Brief Description

45 The HKPC provides integrated support to innovative and growth-oriented Hong Kong firms across the value chain, in particular SMEs and start-ups, with the main geographical focus on Hong Kong and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area) in the Chinese Mainland.

46 The work of the HKPC is anchored on four programme areas of smart manufacturing technologies, SME upgrade and support, smart and digital technologies and green technologies to promote new industrialisation and new productive forces, including:

- providing one-stop services in intelligent manufacturing and new industrialisation to assist industries in different sectors to set up smart production lines and transform to high value-added production;
- providing integrated services for SMEs and start-ups to boost their business performance, including FutureSkills training from technological knowledge to TechEd STEAM education and management to nurture future talents in I&T, as well as secretariat support to government funding schemes to help SMEs upgrade and transform;
- promoting digitalisation and cyber security to assist local industries to utilise digital technologies and develop effective security strategies to transform operations and adapt to future challenges; and
- providing new energy and green technology support to drive smart and green living and contribute to carbon neutrality.

47 During 2025–26, the HKPC ran the following subsidiaries:

- the HKPC Technology (Holdings) Company Limited which functions as a vehicle for the commercialisation of patents, technologies and project deliverables of the HKPC; and
- the Productivity (Holdings) Limited which operates consulting firms in Shenzhen and Dongguan to strengthen the HKPC's integrated support and services for Hong Kong firms operating in the Greater Bay Area.

48 The key performance indicators for the HKPC are:

Indicators

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 ^Φ (Revised Estimate)	2026–27 ^Φ (Estimate)
external income per employee (\$m).....	1.1	0.8	0.9
total income/total expenditure ratio (%)	86	77	80
income from integrated service projects (\$m)	786.6	718.8	786.7
income from fee-charging integrated learning course projects (\$m).....	28.3	27.5	24.5
no. of integrated service projects accepted	720	680	680
no. of people participating in fee-charging integrated learning courses	21 836	15 000	15 000
no. of people participating in the HKPC's seminars, workshops, conferences, exhibitions and non-fee charging training courses and study missions	30 641	29 000	30 000
no. of new R&D projects ^β	157	120	120
no. of new projects using HKPC's patents	86	75	75
customer satisfaction index	9.6	8.9	8.9

Φ The estimate figures have taken into account, among others, the estimates for 2025–26, year-to-date actual performance, Hong Kong's economic outlook and general market sentiment.

β The figures for 2024–25 do not include projects undertaken by the Automotive Platforms and Application Systems R&D Centre (currently known as the Centre of Advanced Power and Autonomous Systems), which are reported under the relevant indicators for the Centre in paragraph 11 above.

Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27

49 During 2026–27, the HKPC will continue to:

- accelerate new industrialisation for local enterprises to harness new productive forces;
- promote intelligent manufacturing by operating the INC Invention Centre Hong Kong jointly established with the Fraunhofer Institute for Production Technology in October 2018 and the Hong Kong Industrial Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Centre set up with RWTH Aachen Campus in 2021;
- operate “The Cradle – Go Global Service Centre” to provide one-stop professional support for the Chinese Mainland enterprises to expand international business via Hong Kong;
- provide digitalisation and cyber security support for enterprises to upgrade and digitalise operation for sustainable development in the changing business environment;
- nurture future talents and promote new technology application and commercialisation through the HKPC Academy and the Inno Space;
- strengthen training relating to new industrialisation;
- promote smart and green living by accelerating the adoption of new energy and green technologies and providing support to enterprises in managing their Environmental, Social, and Governance performance;
- provide integrated services to SMEs and start-ups through the SME ReachOut and SME One;
- enhance support to companies operating in the Chinese Mainland, through subsidiary consulting firms set up in Shenzhen and Dongguan and service platforms set up with local governments and new industrialisation service points in the Chinese Mainland; and
- implement designated government funding schemes as the secretariat for serving SMEs.

ASTRI

Aim

50 The aim is to provide research capability for Hong Kong’s technological development and stimulate the growth of technology-based industry in Hong Kong, and to enhance Hong Kong’s competitiveness in technology-based industries through applied research.

Brief Description

51 ASTRI’s missions are to:

- perform high quality R&D and transfer the technologies developed to the industry;
- promote greater application of technology in the industry;
- become a focal point for attracting international R&D talent to work in Hong Kong;
- enhance Hong Kong’s technological human resources development;
- act as a spawning ground for technology entrepreneurs; and
- provide a focal point for industry-university collaboration.

52 ASTRI is designated as the R&D Centre for information and communications technologies. ASTRI focuses its R&D on the following core initiatives – smart city, financial technologies, new industrialisation and intelligent manufacturing, digital health, application specific integrated circuits (ASIC) and advanced electronics. Its operating strategy is to transfer the technologies and results developed from its R&D projects to the industry. This process will elevate the technology level of Hong Kong industry and accelerate the expansion of its technology industry base to create new employment opportunities and enhance competitiveness. ASTRI will be merged with NAMI on 1 April 2026. By including nanotechnology and advanced materials into its core initiatives, ASTRI will be generating complementary advantages and synergies that will accelerate the commercialisation of R&D outcomes.

53 The key performance indicators for ASTRI are:

Indicators

	2024 (Actual)	2025 ^ψ (Actual)	2026 ^ψ (Estimate)
no. of new full projects [^]	31	—	—
no. of new seed projects [¶]	24	—	—
no. of inventions (patents) filed	30 (60)	—	—
no. of technology transfer	79	—	—
no. of clients engaged in technology transfer.....	65	—	—

**Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT:
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

	2024 (Actual)	2025 ^ψ (Actual)	2026 ^ψ (Estimate)
no. of members joining consortia formed by ASTRI.....	523 ^λ	—	—
no. of technology workshops/seminars organised	111	—	—
no. of participants of seminars	11 671	—	—
amount of income from industry (\$m).....	171.1	—	—

^ψ The funding arrangement for ASTRI has been changed from recurrent subvention under Head 155 – Government Secretariat: Innovation and Technology Commission to ITF with effect from 2025–26.

[^] Full projects are R&D projects with more than \$2 million funding support from the ITF, including collaborative projects with the industry.

[¶] Seed projects are feasibility studies for developing substantive R&D project proposals. The maximum ITF funding support for each of them is \$2.8 million.

^λ Refer to the accumulated number of members recruited.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27

54 ASTRI will be merged with NAMI on 1 April 2026, generating complementary advantages and synergies that will accelerate the commercialisation of R&D outcomes.

**Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT:
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

Programme	2024–25 (Actual) (\$m)	2025–26 (Original) (\$m)	2025–26 (Revised) (\$m)	2026–27 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Support for Research and Development.....	118.9	121.3	115.6	112.2
(2) Promotion of Technological Entrepreneurship.....	45.7	68.1	51.8	65.5
(3) Planning for Innovation and Technology Development.....	105.5	112.2	75.7	67.5
(4) Infrastructural Support.....	71.0	1,880.1	80.8	1,877.3
(5) Quality Support.....	148.3	180.3	165.9	180.4
(6) Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited.....	385.2	217.4	217.4	213.0
	874.6	2,579.4	707.2 (–72.6%)	2,515.9 (+255.8%)
				(or –2.5% on 2025–26 Original)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2026–27 is \$3.4 million (2.9%) lower than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to decreased provision for general departmental expenses. There will be a net decrease of three posts in 2026–27.

Programme (2)

Provision for 2026–27 is \$13.7 million (26.4%) higher than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to increased provision for general departmental expenses in relation to the implementation of ITIF. There will be a net decrease of one post in 2026–27.

Programme (3)

Provision for 2026–27 is \$8.2 million (10.8%) lower than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to decreased provision for salary and general departmental expenses. There will be a net decrease of nine posts in 2026–27.

Programme (4)

Provision for 2026–27 is \$1,796.5 million (2 223.4%) higher than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to the adjusted cash flow requirements for setting up no more than three life and health technology research institutes arising from the updated implementation timeline. There will be a net decrease of three posts in 2026–27.

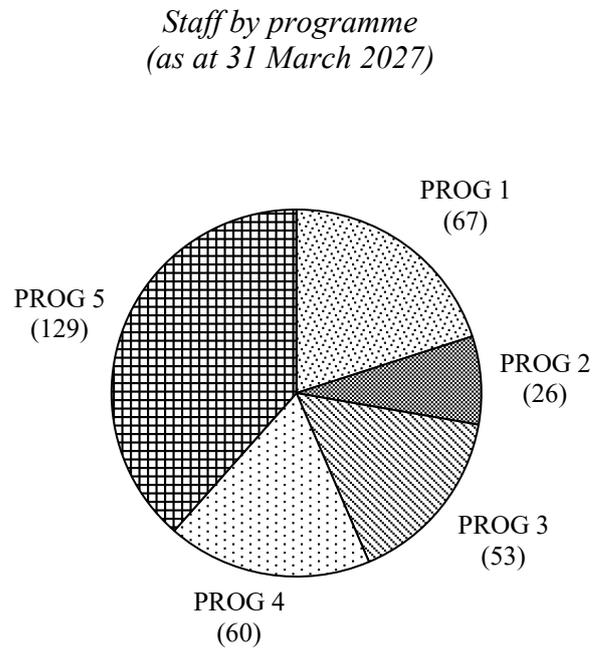
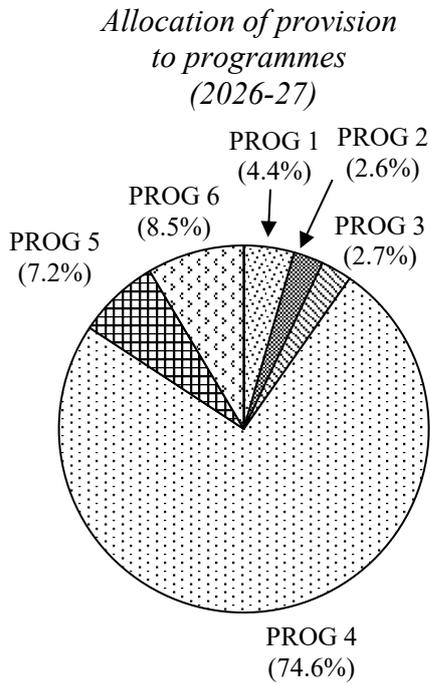
Programme (5)

Provision for 2026–27 is \$14.5 million (8.7%) higher than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to the adjusted cash flow requirements for the procurement of equipment. There will be a net decrease of five posts in 2026–27.

Programme (6)

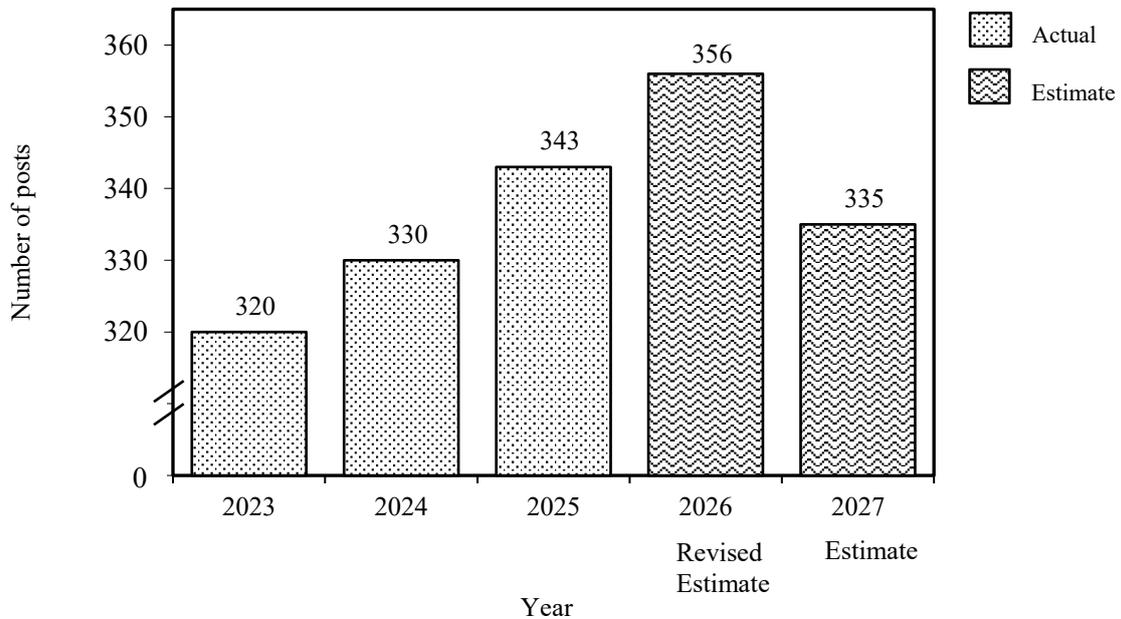
Provision for 2026–27 is \$4.4 million (2.0%) lower than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to decreased provision for the HKPC.

**Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT:
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**



(No government staff under PROG 6)

Changes in the size of the establishment (as at 31 March)



**Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT:
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2024–25	Approved estimate 2025–26	Revised estimate 2025–26	Estimate 2026–27	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Operating Account					
Recurrent					
000	Operational expenses	845,164	706,955	684,488	667,384
	Total, Recurrent.....	845,164	706,955	684,488	667,384
Non-Recurrent					
700	General non-recurrent	24,415	1,830,000	—	1,800,000
	Total, Non-Recurrent.....	24,415	1,830,000	—	1,800,000
	Total, Operating Account	869,579	2,536,955	684,488	2,467,384
Capital Account					
Plant, Equipment and Works					
603	Plant, vehicles and equipment.....	318	20,100	350	19,500
661	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote).....	4,739	22,362	22,362	29,022
	Total, Plant, Equipment and Works.....	5,057	42,462	22,712	48,522
	Total, Capital Account.....	5,057	42,462	22,712	48,522
	Total Expenditure	874,636	2,579,417	707,200	2,515,906

Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2026–27 for the salaries and expenses of the Innovation and Technology Commission is \$2,515,906,000. This represents an increase of \$1,808,706,000 over the revised estimate for 2025–26 and \$1,641,270,000 over the actual expenditure in 2024–25.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$667,384,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Innovation and Technology Commission.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2026 will be 356 posts. It is expected that there will be a net decrease of 21 posts in 2026–27. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2026–27, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$281,147,000.

4 An analysis of the financial provision under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is as follows:

	2024–25 (Actual) (\$'000)	2025–26 (Original) (\$'000)	2025–26 (Revised) (\$'000)	2026–27 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries.....	285,225	309,091	299,050	302,489
- Allowances.....	7,959	10,650	9,319	10,429
- Job-related allowances	1	7	3	7
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution.....	728	769	711	655
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution.....	28,778	34,757	32,742	35,989
Departmental Expenses				
- General departmental expenses	137,218	134,280	125,262	104,769
Subventions				
- Hong Kong Productivity Council	224,811	217,401	217,401	213,046
- Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited.....	160,444	—	—	—
	845,164	706,955	684,488	667,384

Capital Account

Plant, Equipment and Works

5 Provision of \$29,022,000 under *Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)* represents an increase of \$6,660,000 (29.8%) over the revised estimate for 2025–26. This reflects the increased requirement for new calibration service scopes and scheduled replacement of minor plant and equipment.

**Head 155 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT:
INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2025	Revised estimated expenditure for 2025–26	Balance
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<i>Operating Account</i>						
700		<i>General non-recurrent</i>				
	805	Subsidy Programme for the Setup of Life and Health Technology Research Institute(s)	6,000,000	—	—	6,000,000
			<u>6,000,000</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>6,000,000</u>
<i>Capital Account</i>						
603		<i>Plant, vehicles and equipment</i>				
	803	To set up a system for measurement of antenna parameters in the Antenna Laboratory of the Standards and Calibration Laboratory at Tseung Kwan O Government Offices	50,000	765	—	49,235
	804	To set up two deadweight type force machines, a deadweight-hydraulic integrated type force machine and a hydraulic type force machine in the Force Laboratory of the Standards and Calibration Laboratory at Tseung Kwan O Government Offices	35,000	318	350	34,332
			<u>85,000</u>	<u>1,083</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>83,567</u>
	Total		<u><u>6,085,000</u></u>	<u><u>1,083</u></u>	<u><u>350</u></u>	<u><u>6,083,567</u></u>