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### Replies to supplementary questions raised by Legislative Council Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2024-25

Director of Bureau : Director of Administration

Session No. : 4

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-CSO001**

**(Question Serial No. SV008)**

Head: (142) Government Secretariat: Offices of the Chief Secretary for Administration and the Financial Secretary

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

Programme: (1) Chief Executive's Policy Unit

Controlling Officer: Director of Administration (Mrs Millie NG)

Director of Bureau: Director of Administration

Question:

Further to Replies of Serial Nos. CSO002 and CSO034 –

- (a) Would the Government please provide a list of the granted projects under the Public Policy Research Funding Scheme and the Strategic Public Policy Research Funding Scheme, including the names of organisations granted with funding and the summaries of the granted projects?
- (b) How does the Government ensure that the research projects under the two above-mentioned schemes can be completed within a reasonable period of time so that the research findings will be of timely reference value?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Tsz-wing, Dennis

Reply:

- (a) Since the Government took over the administration of the Public Policy Research Funding Scheme (PPRFS) and the Strategic Public Policy Research Funding Scheme (SPPRFS) in 2013-14, details of the granted projects (including year of funding, project number and title, name of Principal Investigator, name of institution/think tank, duration, funding amount, research theme(s) concerned, as well as project status) have been available on the website of Chief Executive's Policy Unit (CEPU) ([www.cepu.gov.hk/en/PRFS/List\\_of\\_Granted\\_Project.html](http://www.cepu.gov.hk/en/PRFS/List_of_Granted_Project.html)) for public reference. Besides, after completion of the research projects, research reports which are rated satisfactory by the Assessment Panel will be uploaded onto the CEPU's website ([www.cepu.gov.hk/en/PRFS/research\\_report.html](http://www.cepu.gov.hk/en/PRFS/research_report.html)). At present, 232 research reports of the PPRFS and 9 research reports of the SPPRFS have been uploaded onto the CEPU's website.

- (b) For the PPRFS, the research projects thereunder are of a shorter duration, normally lasting from 6 to 12 months. For the SPPRFS, it aims to support longer-term public policy research on strategic themes, thereby building up the research capacity of relevant organisations and facilitating collaboration on the strategic themes among institutions/think tanks. Since the establishment of the CEPU, we have adopted a series of enhancement measures to better tie in with the Government's policy administration and priorities. Among which, the duration for SPPRFS research projects have been expanded since 2023-24 to range from 1 to 5 years instead of 3 to 5 years in the past, so as to generate findings and policy recommendations in a timely manner for the Government's reference.

In addition, assessments under the 2 funding schemes are conducted by the Assessment Panel comprising experienced academics, after which recommendations will be made to the Government. One of the assessment criteria of the funding schemes is whether the research's schedule of implementation is well-planned and practicable, and the duration is reasonable. The views of external academics and experts, as well as those of relevant government bureaux or departments will also be taken into account during the assessment process. Given that public policy research is conducive to the development and formulation of policies, we have been encouraging research teams to disseminate interim or partial findings during the research process, so that the research outcomes could serve as timely reference and it will also enable the research teams to receive feedback from stakeholders based on which they can refine their eventual policy recommendations, making the recommendations more attuned to the circumstances and needs of society. For projects granted under the longer-term SPPRFS, research teams will share interim outcomes by phases with the Government to provide timely reference for the latter in policy formulation.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-CSO002**

**(Question Serial No. SV009)**

Head: (94) Legal Aid Department

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

Programme: (3) Support Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Legal Aid (Chris YT CHONG)

Director of Bureau: Director of Administration

Question:

Further to Reply Serial No. CSO035 –

Among the cases which were assigned to private practitioners and monitored by the Legal Aid Department, how many were closed between January and June 2023?

Asked by: Hon LAM San-keung

Reply:

The number of assigned out cases by the Legal Aid Department in which legal proceedings have been concluded (i.e. settled or adjudicated) in the first 6 months of 2023 up to 30 June is 2 326.

- End -