

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FSTB(Tsy)044**

**(Question Serial No. 0169)**

Head: (162) Rating and Valuation Department

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (2) Collection and Billing of Rates and Government Rent

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Rating and Valuation (TANG Ping Kwong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Question:

Regarding the rates concession measure for this year, please inform the Committee of -

- (1) the number of cases of rates concession together with the number of cases that involve private domestic premises and commercial properties and the amounts enjoyed by them respectively;
- (2) the amounts enjoyed by each of the top 100 organisations receiving the largest amounts of rates concession in table form;
- (3) the number of cases that reach the ceiling of rates concession with respect to private domestic premises and commercial properties together with the amounts enjoyed by them respectively;
- (4) the number of cases that involve Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited, Sun Hung Kai Properties Limited, Sino Land Company Limited, Henderson Land Development Company Limited, Chinachem Group, Wharf (Holdings) Limited, Hutchison Whampoa Limited, Hang Lung Group Limited, Wheelock and Company Limited as well as their subsidiary companies, affiliated companies and holding companies with respect to rates concession and the amounts enjoyed by them.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Wai-yip, Albert (Member Question No. 46)

Reply:

- (1) For the 2015-16 financial year, around 3.15 million properties will benefit from rates concession, of which about 1.74 million are private domestic properties and 0.41 million are non-domestic properties. The estimated amounts of rates concession involving private domestic properties and non-domestic properties are about \$5.2 billion and \$1.3 billion respectively.

- (2) For the 2015-16 financial year, the top 100 ratepayers (excluding organisations providing public housing) that will receive the largest estimated amounts of rates concession, involving about \$0.25 billion, are as follows -

Ratepayer	Amount of Rates Concession (\$million)
1 - 50	206.62
51 - 100	44.73
Total	251.35

- (3) For the 2015-16 financial year, it is estimated that about 265 000 private domestic properties and about 168 000 non-domestic properties will enjoy rates concession at the ceiling level in the relevant quarters, involving concession amounts of about \$1.3 billion and \$0.8 billion respectively.
- (4) According to the Code on Access to Information, without prior consent from the ratepayers concerned, the Rating and Valuation Department (RVD) is unable to disclose information which will reveal the identity of the ratepayers. Moreover, RVD does not have records of subsidiary companies, affiliated companies and holding companies.

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