

LegCo Question No. 14

Annex

Reply:

- (a) The quantities of fresh water consumption as well as the amounts of water and sewage charges paid by domestic households and industrial and commercial premises respectively for the past five years are as follows:

Table 1 : Quantities of Fresh Water Consumption

Year	By Domestic Households (in Million Cubic Metres)	By Industrial and Commercial Premises (in Million Cubic Metres)
2002-03	310	199
2003-04	325	194
2004-05	324	203
2005-06	321	200
2006-07	322	196

Table 2 : Water and Sewage Charges

Year	Domestic Households		Industrial and Commercial Premises	
	Water Charges (\$ Million)	Sewage Charges (\$ Million)	Water Charges (\$ Million)	Sewage Charges (including Trade Effluent Surcharge) (\$ Million)
2002-03	617 ⁽¹⁾	92 ⁽¹⁾	753 ⁽¹⁾	342 ⁽¹⁾
2003-04	1,143 ⁽¹⁾	199 ⁽¹⁾	800 ⁽¹⁾	355 ⁽¹⁾
2004-05	1,418	266	929	413
2005-06	1,386	264	919	412
2006-07	1,382	271	896	407

Note 1: The revenues from water and sewage charges in 2002-03 and 2003-04 were lower than those for other years because of concessions in water and sewage charges in these two years.

- (b) The numbers of domestic accounts as well as industrial and commercial accounts for the past five years are as follows:

Year	Domestic Accounts (x 1000)	Industrial and Commercial Accounts (x 1000)
2002-03	2,280	233
2003-04	2,326	233
2004-05	2,356	233
2005-06	2,374	231
2006-07	2,406	233

As shown by the above figures, the number of domestic accounts was increased by 5.5% over the past five years from 2.28 million in 2002-03 to 2.406 million in 2006-07. Over the same period, the quantity of fresh water consumption by domestic households was increased by 3.9% from 310 million cubic metres to 322 million cubic metres, as indicated in Table 1 in (a) above. In comparison, the increase in the quantity of water consumption by domestic households was slightly lower than the increase in the number of domestic accounts, but the difference was small. On the other hand, there was not much change in the number of industrial and commercial accounts and the corresponding quantity of water consumption over the past five years.