

Annex to LCQ 7

Assistance requests from Hong Kong residents outside Hong Kong received by the Immigration Department in the past ten years

	Loss of travel document	Traffic accident	Hospitalisation, sickness or death	Others	Total
2001	246	119	45	624	1,034
2002	301	95	44	554	994
2003	869	31	69	501	1,470
2004	2,729	132	77	2,710	5,648 ^{Note a}
2005	2,735	103	79	1,284	4,201 ^{Note a}
2006	639	173	130	876	1,818
2007	490	61	151	772	1,474
2008	440	91	216	1,568	2,315 ^{Note b}
2009	551	62	253	653	1,519
2010	765	22	260	1,147	2,194 ^{Note c}
2011 (Jan-May)	660	43	66	2,262	3,031 ^{Note d}

Note: The main reasons for upsurge in the number of requests for assistance are :

- a the incident of tsunami in South Asia in December 2004
- b the incident of the closure of the international airport in Bangkok, Thailand
- c the incidents of snowstorm in Heathrow Airport in London and air traffic disruption due to volcanic eruption in Europe
- d the incident of earthquake and nuclear incident in Japan