

Table 3

Details of the requests for information disclosure made by the Government to service providers since October 2014

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)	(viii)	(ix)	(x)	(xi)	(xii)	(xiii)
Government Department	Names (Note 1) and types of service providers	Total number of service providers	Dates on which the requests were made	Deadlines for processing the requests (irrespective of whether such requests were acceded to or not)	Types of requests made	Reasons for making the requests	Number of requests made	Number of requests made under a court order	Number of accounts involved	Amount of information requested	Nature of information requested (whether requests were made for providing metadata and/or content of communication)	Number of requests acceded to	Reasons given by service providers for not acceding to the requests
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	Internet platform	1	26.11.2014	26.11.2014	Request for personal particulars of the advertisers for prosecution purpose	To enforce the Public Health (Animals and Birds)(Animal Traders) Regulations (Cap. 139B)	1	0	2	1 item	Metadata	0	No reason was provided
Customs and Excise Department	Local and foreign service providers	15	1.10.2014 to 29.1.2015	No deadline set	Request for users' information	Crime prevention and detection	118	0	187	187	Metadata	118	N/A
Home Affairs Department	Internet platform	1	3.11.2014	21.11.2014	Request for user's transaction record	Investigation of report of suspected unlicensed guesthouse operation	1	0	1	1 item	Metadata	0	The service provider required the Licensing Authority to obtain such information in accordance with the legal process under the law of another country

Government Department	(i) Names (Note 1) and types of service providers	(ii) Total number of service providers	(iii) Dates on which the requests were made	(iv) Deadlines for processing the requests (irrespective of whether such requests were acceded to or not)	(v) Types of requests made	(vi) Reasons for making the requests	(vii) Number of requests made	(viii) Number of requests made under a court order	(ix) Number of accounts involved	(x) Amount of information requested	(xi) Nature of information requested (whether requests were made for providing metadata and/or content of communication)	(xii) Number of requests acceded to	(xiii) Reasons given by service providers for not acceding to the requests
Hong Kong Police Force	Local and foreign service providers	Relevant statistics are not readily available	1.10.2014 to 29.1.2015	No deadline set	Request for users' information	Crime prevention and detection - primarily involving technology crimes or crimes related to the use of the Internet. The Police handled a total of 2 431 cases of technology crimes from 1 October 2014 to 29 January 2015	1 156	Relevant statistics are not readily available	1 156 (Note 2)	1 156 (Note 2)	Metadata	Partially	In some cases, user accounts or records that do not exist are involved, or the registered user or Internet Protocol address is not in Hong Kong. Under these circumstances, the service providers cannot provide the information.

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Government Department	Names (Note 1) and types of service providers	Total number of service providers	Dates on which the requests were made	Deadlines for processing the requests (irrespective of whether such requests were acceded to or not)	Types of requests made	Reasons for making the requests	Number of requests made	Number of requests made under a court order	Number of accounts involved	Amount of information requested	Nature of information requested (whether requests were made for providing metadata and/or content of communication)	Number of requests acceded to	Reasons given by service providers for not acceding to the requests
Inland Revenue Department (Note 3)	Cannot be provided	2	Cannot be provided	Cannot be provided	Cannot be provided	To enforce the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310) and the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) by requiring persons carrying on business through the Internet to register their businesses and pay profits tax	24	Cannot be provided	24	Cannot be provided	Cannot be provided	20 (4 still in progress)	N/A
Office of the Communications Authority	Internet service providers	10	17.10.2014 to 19.1.2015	Within two weeks after sending out the request	Request for registrants' information	Investigation under the Unsolicited Electronic Messages Ordinance (Cap. 593)	17	0	17	17 items	Metadata	17	N/A

Note 1 Since the question involves the commercial information of a large number of service providers, it is rather impossible for the Government to obtain consent from all relevant organisations to disclose the required information. Hence, the names of individual service providers have not been made public.

Note 2 Each request corresponds to one item of information and one user account only.

Note 3 Except for the information provided herein, other information cannot be provided due to the secrecy provisions under the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310) and the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112).