(Question Serial No. 1058)

Head: (100) Marine Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Local Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Marine (Maisie CHENG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:
In 2019-20, the Marine Department (MD) will continue to follow up the recommendations of the review on berthing and sheltered space for local vessels in Hong Kong. Regarding the follow-up of the recommendations concerned, what are the latest progress and the resources involved? It is pointed out that, due to the shortage of berthing for vessels, some people have laid moorings in the typhoon shelters without permission in order to make money. In this connection, what measures does the Government have in place to put an end to it?

Asked by: Hon YICK Chi-ming, Frankie (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

The latest progress of implementing the measures recommended by the Review on Berthing and Sheltered Space for Local Vessels in Hong Kong is as follows:

(i) MD has processed two batches of applications for laying private moorings at the Hei Ling Chau Typhoon Shelter private mooring area (PMA) in 2018, and approved a total of 88 applications.

(ii) MD has obtained support of the Sai Kung District Council in 2018 to expand the existing PMA at Tso Wo Hang and to establish new PMA at Yim Tin Tsai Typhoon Shelter. MD will continue to work with local stakeholders on the detailed arrangement.

(iii) MD has consulted the relevant District Councils and Rural Committees in 2018 with a view to expanding the PMAs at Shuen Wan Hoi and Tai Mei Tuk. MD will continue to liaise with the stakeholders and obtain their support.

(iv) MD has, on a trial basis, designated through administrative means, a specific area within the Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter (KTTS) for the exclusive mooring of non-pleasure vessels with a view to achieving better mooring management.
Since the implementation of the measure in August 2017, it is estimated that about 15 hectares of the total mooring space in KTTS have become available for the exclusive mooring of non-pleasure vessels.

The implementation of the above measures forms part of the normal duties of concerned staff and are undertaken with existing resources. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved.

Under existing legislation, no person shall lay a private mooring in the waters of Hong Kong except with the written permission of the Director of Marine. MD has from time to time conducted operations within typhoon shelters with a view to identifying and removing any illegal moorings or floating structures. MD will continue to closely monitor the situation at typhoon shelters and adopt appropriate measures to ensure their proper use by vessels.

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