

LCQ11:Rescue cases, drowning cases and deaths due to other accidents at public swimming pools and beaches

Following is a question by the Dr Hon Pan Pey-chyou and a written reply by the Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Tsang Tak-sing, in the Legislative Council today (March 17):

Question:

Will the Government inform this Council:

(a) of the respective numbers of rescue cases, fatal cases and deaths due to other accidents which happened at public swimming pools, beaches and water sports centres during service hours in each of the past five years, together with a breakdown by location as well as the gender and age group (18 or below, 19 to 45, and 65 or above) of the persons injured or died; and

(b) among the cases in (a), of the respective numbers of those in which the accidental deaths were caused by faults arising from problems with venue facilities and venue management, as well as the amounts of compensation involved?

Reply:

President,

(a) The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) manages 37 public swimming pools and 41 gazetted public beaches in Hong Kong. With the exception of nine beaches that are temporarily closed due to poor water quality, all the other 32 public beaches and 37 public swimming pools provide life saving services when open to the public. The respective numbers of rescue cases, drowning cases and deaths due to other accidents which happened at public swimming pools and public beaches in each of the past five years are tabulated by gender and age group of the victims in Annexes 1 to 3.

There have been no drowning or death cases at the five water sports centres and the three holiday camps with swimming pools under the LCSD in the past five years.

(b) Among the above cases, no accidental death was caused by faults arising from problems with venue facilities and venue management.

Ends/Wednesday, March 17, 2010

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