

Hon Mrs Selina CHOW to ask on 30/01/2008

Will the Government inform this Council:

1. of the current total number of government quarters (excluding departmental quarters of the disciplined services) and their overall vacancy rate as at 30 September in each of the past three years;
2. of the current number of the above units rented to members of the public; the average and longest vacant periods of such units before their current leases came into operation, and the loss of rental in the past three fiscal years due to the above government quarters being left vacant; and
3. given that the residential rental market in Hong Kong has boomed and rental has soared in recent years, whether the authorities have plans to rent out more of the above government quarters to members of the public, in order to increase government revenue?

Public Officer to reply: **Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development**