

Legislative Council Question No. 16
(Written Reply)

Date of Sitting : 28 February 2001

Asked by : Hon Howard Young Replied by : Secretary for Economic Services

Question :

Will the Government inform this Council whether:

- (a) it knows the number of accidents in the Mainland in the past three years which involved tour coaches carrying Hong Kong residents; and
- (b) it has urged the relevant Mainland authorities to take measures to prevent the occurrence of such accidents?

Reply

Madam President,

My answer to Mr Young's question is as follows:-

- (a) According to the Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong, there were nine accidents in the Mainland involving tour coaches carrying Hong Kong residents in the past three years.
- (b) The industry maintains close liaison with the Guangdong Provincial Tourism Administration (廣東省旅遊局) which has implemented various safety measures to enhance protection for visitors on coach tours. Such measures include reinforcing communication between the Guangdong Provincial Tourism Administration and the traffic police; tightening the supervision of tour coach companies and inspection of tour coaches; prohibiting the use of unsafe vehicles; reinforcing safety education and supervision of drivers, and replacing aging tour coaches.

Economic Services Bureau
28 February 2001