

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FSTB(Tsy)019**

**(Question Serial No. 1209)**

Head: (76) Inland Revenue Department

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (1) Assessing Functions

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Inland Revenue (WONG Kuen Fai)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Question:

In respect of eTAX, would the Government please inform the Committee of the following: the respective percentages of taxpayers who submitted tax returns for each type of tax by means of e-Tax in the past 3 years; and the staff establishment and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (Member Question No. 33)

Reply:

The numbers and percentage shares of tax returns filed electronically via eTAX from 2014-15 to 2016-17 financial years are as follows-

Financial Year	Total number of tax returns filed online (% of the respective total tax returns)			
	Individual Tax Return	Property Tax Return	Profits Tax Return	Employer's Return
2014-15	462 000 (18.1%)	8 000 (5.1%)	2 100 (0.6%)	10 300 (2.7%)
2015-16	512 500 (19.6%)	8 600 (5.5%)	4 500 (1.0%)	12 200 (3.0%)
2016-17 (As at 28 February 2017)	554 000 (20.7%)	8 000 (5.2%)	4 600 (1.1%)	13 500 (3.5%)

All computer systems of the Inland Revenue Department (IRD), including the eTAX System, are monitored and operated by the staff of the information systems section. In the financial year 2016-17, the section has 160 staff and the related expenditure is about \$69 million. The IRD does not have staff dedicated for managing the eTAX System.