

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**CSO017****(Question Serial No. 3540)**Head: (94) Legal Aid DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Processing of Legal Aid ApplicationsControlling Officer: Director of Legal Aid (C. M. CHAN)Director of Bureau: Director of AdministrationQuestion:

Regarding the use of mediation services in legally-aided cases handled by the Legal Aid Department, would the Government inform this Committee of:
the number of legally-aided cases in which mediation services were used over the past 3 years, with a detailed breakdown by year, type of cases, mediator's fee and type of other expenses?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Tsz-wing, Dennis (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)Reply:

The number of legally-aided cases with approval to incur expenses for mediation over the past 3 years is tabulated below:

Year	Number of legally-aided cases with approval to incur expenses for mediation
2023	620
2024	656
2025	543

The number of legally-aided cases in which mediation was conducted over the past 3 years with a breakdown by type of cases is tabulated below:

Type of cases	2023	2024	2025
Personal injuries	330	291	255
Matrimonial cases	103	108	148
Employees' compensation claims	43	49	48
Running down	40	47	46
Land and tenancy disputes	21	27	23
Medical/Dental negligence	6	13	6
Employment disputes	3	1	2
Other civil cases	37	19	29
Total	583	555	557

Note: Some legally-aided cases approved for mediation may not ultimately proceed to mediation, and the year in which mediation was conducted may differ from the year of approval.

The expenses for providing mediation services by the Legal Aid Department over the past 3 years are tabulated below:

Year	Mediator's fee (\$ million)	Other expenses (\$ million)
2023	2.72	0.02
2024	2.94	0.01
2025	2.76	0.01

Note: Other expenses primarily consist of venue rental.

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