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Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Session No: 18

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**Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the
Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09**

**Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development
Session No: 18**

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-DEVB(W)01

Question Serial No.

S092

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Development Bureau (Works Branch) Subhead :

Programme : (2) Heritage Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The estimate for 2008-09 is 1020% higher than the original estimate for 2007-08. How much of the provision comes from Head 53 – Government Secretariat: Home Affairs Bureau and the former Head 145 – Government Secretariat: Economic Development and Labour Bureau respectively? By basing on this analysis, how much is the estimate for 2008-09 actually higher than the original estimate for 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

Reply :

The original estimate of \$3 million in 2007-08 in this programme comprises transfer of \$1.6 million from Head 53 - Government Secretariat : Home Affairs Bureau and \$1.4 million from the former Head 145 – Government Secretariat : Economic Development and Labour Bureau (Economic Development Branch).

The increase of \$30.6 million in 2008-09 as compared to the 2007-08 original estimate reflected the significant importance attached by the Government to heritage conservation as announced by the Chief Executive in the 2007 Policy Address. The increase can be explained by reference to the following areas of expenditure –

- (a) personal emoluments - for staff involved in discharging duties related to heritage conservation, including the establishment of the Commissioner for Heritage's Office with effect from April 2008;
- (b) departmental expenses – expenditure in regard to salaries of non-civil service contract staff, consultancy studies, creation of a dedicated website for heritage conservation, procurement of computer facilities, etc.; and
- (c) general non-recurrent expenditure - for implementation of the new Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for Development
(Works)

Date

11 April 2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

S-DEVB(W)03

Head: 159 – Government Subhead (No. & title):
Secretariat: Development
Bureau (Works Branch)

Question Serial No.

S094

Programme: (3) Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Regarding “supervise the development and implementation of Greening Master Plans”, have any resources been allocated to carry out greening in new towns of the New Territories, in particular the outlying islands, not only to improve the local environment but also to attract more visitors?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

Reply:

Upon completion of the development of Greening Master Plans (GMPs) in urban area, GMPs studies in the New Territories (including outlying islands) will commence in mid-2009 for completion in 2012. Before that, we shall also implement greening enhancement proposals at focal points in the New Territories as interim measures. Implementation of these will be met by existing resources.

Signature _____

Name in block
letters _____ C K Mak

Post Title _____
Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date _____ 11 April 2008

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-DEVB(W)04

Question Serial No

S095

Head : 159 - Government Secretariat: Subhead : 000 Operational Expenses
Development Bureau (Works
Branch)

Programme : (3) Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

In the analysis of the financial provision under Subhead 000 Operational Expenses, the estimates for temporary staff and general departmental expenses in 2008-09 have substantially increased as compared with the revised estimate for 2007-08. Please tell us the work of those temporary staff. As the general departmental expenses will increase by 50%, on what work will the expenses be spent?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

Reply :

Temporary staff includes graduate/undergraduate trainees under the Graduate Training Scheme and Undergraduate Training Scheme as well as non-civil service contract staff to carry out computer-related and other support services.

The general departmental expenses for 2008-09 is about 50% higher than the revised estimate for 2007-08. This is mainly due to increased provision for minor consultancy studies, maintenance and enhancement of computer systems, computer services and publicity programme for implementation of Construction Workers Registration Ordinance, etc.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

C K MAK

Post Title:

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date:

11 April 2008