

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)044

Question Serial No.

0096

Head: 91 Lands Department

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Land Administration

Controlling Officer: Director of Lands

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : It is estimated that the processing of applications from indigenous villagers for rent concession in 2003 will involve only 21 700 cases, which sees a reduction of 7 500 cases when compared with the figure of 29 200 in 2002. Why?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply: Lands Department has already processed approximately 180 000 rent exemption cases. Recent statistics indicate that applications are submitted at a rate of about 1 800 cases per month. This forms the basis of the estimate of 21 700 cases for 2003 and reflects the trend that such applications are decreasing.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters PATRICK L C LAU

Post Title Director of Lands

Date 18.3.2003