

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)099

Question Serial No.

1107

Head: 110 Territory Development Department      Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:                    (1) Provision of Land and Infrastructure

Controlling Officer:      Director of Territory Development

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question:      Why, with the number of projects in hand increased by only 5.3 percent and the total value dropped by 5.7 percent to \$90,458 million, would the expenditure of works undertaken by the department be increased by 41 percent to \$5,135 million in 2003?

Asked by:                  Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply:                      The number of projects in hand includes projects which are in the planning stage during which not much expenditure would be incurred. The expenditure of works in a particular year depends very much on the construction works to be undertaken in that year. In other words, the number of projects in hand (including the value of projects) may not be proportional to the expenditure of works undertaken in a particular year. For the year 2003, the increase in expenditure of works to be undertaken is due to the commencement of construction works for some major projects like Road T3 and Route 9 in Sha Tin, and Central Reclamation Phase III.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      H. K. WONG

Post Title      Director of Territory Development

Date      20 March, 2003