

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)105

Question Serial No.

0792

Head: 701 Land Acquisition

Subhead(No. & title): 1100CA Compensation and ex-gratia allowances in respect of projects in the Public Works Programme

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Lands

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : The estimated expenditure for 2003-04 has doubled by \$1,000 million over the revised estimated expenditure for 2002-03. Why?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply: The original provision for Subhead 1100CA for 2002-03 was \$2,685 million. This was to cover estimated payments for new projects to start in 2002-03 plus commitments left over from previous years. Due to the deferment of some new projects and the failure to agree on the compensation of some on-going projects, including a sum of \$1,061 million for Penny's Bay Reclamation, the estimate for 2002-03 was later revised to \$1,000 million. The estimate of \$2,000 million for 2003-04 is for estimated payments for projects to commence in 2003-04 plus commitments carried forward from previous years, including the \$1,061 million for Penny's Bay Reclamation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters PATRICK L C LAU

Post Title Director of Lands

Date 21.3.2003