

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)060

Question Serial No.

0820

Head: 43 Civil Engineering Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Site Formation and Reclamation

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question: In the 2004-05 Estimates, there are obvious decreases in “area of land formed”, “value of land formation projects under planning and design” and “expenditure on construction for land production”. Will such decreases result in surplus staff? If yes, will the department redeploy the surplus staff resources to support the work of other offices, such as slope safety?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply: The decreases in “area of land formed”, “value of land formation projects under planning and design” and “expenditure on construction for land production” in the 2004-05 Estimates are mainly due to the completion of some construction contracts. In addition, a number of projects under planning are under review. Though the reduction of workload is not proportional to these decreases, Civil Engineering Department will nevertheless implement staff rationalisation plans. We are now planning to merge with the Territory Development Department. Upon approval, appropriate human resources deployment will be implemented.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ T K TSAO

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering

Date _____ 22 March 2004