

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)106

Question Serial No.

0179

Head : 118 - Planning Department Subhead (No. & title) : 000 – Operational expenses

Programme : (2) – District Planning

Controlling Officer : Director of Planning

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : The estimate for 2004-05 is \$4.7 million lower than the revised estimate for 2003-04, which is mainly due to the deletion of 38 posts in 2004-05. May I ask:

- (1) what the 38 posts are, and how much expenditure will the government save by estimate?
- (2) what posts will take up the work of the deleted posts?

Asked by : Hon. HO Chung-tai, Raymond

Reply : (1) The 38 posts to be deleted under Programme 2 are as follows :-

<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of post</u>
Town Planner	11
Survey Officer (Planning)	7
Technical Officer (Cartographic)	7
Technical Officer (Reprographic)	1
Executive Officer	1
Personal Secretary	2
Clerical Officer	6
Office Assistant	1
Motor Driver	2
Total :	38

The savings in personal emoluments from the deletion of the 38 posts, together with the effect of the 2004 and 2005 civil service pay cut, are \$6.4 million for 2004-05. The net saving amounts to \$4.7 million after taking into account increases in departmental expenses and expenditure of consultancy studies.

- (2) Their work will be absorbed by various sections and offices of the department through re-structuring, re-prioritising work, and re-engineering the work processes.

Signature _____

Name in block letters

_____ B C K FUNG _____

Post Title

_____ Director of Planning _____

Date

_____ 23 March 2004 _____