

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)126

Question Serial No.

1734

Head: 701 Lands 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 allocation for the payment of compensation and ex-gratia allowances in respect of the projects in the Public Works Programme for 2004-05 is more than 40% over the revised estimated allocation for 2003-04. Why? As far as the expenditure is concerned, please list the major projects in 2003-04 and 2004-05 and a breakdown of the amount of expenditure of such projects.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply:

The increase in allocation for **Subhead 1100CA** from \$1,385 million (revised estimate) in 2003-04 to \$2,000 million (approved allocation) in 2004-05 is mainly due to the deferral of compensation claims relating to Penny's Bay Reclamation.

Works projects involving significant land resumption expenditure in 2003-04 included –

- (a) Deep Bay Link (\$410 million);
- (b) Yuen Long south eastern extension (\$61 million);
- (c) Main drainage channel for Yuen Long and Kam Tin – Tin Tsuen Channel – Ancillary road works (\$50 million);
- (d) Main drainage channel – Tin Tsuen Channel in Yuen Long (\$16 million);
- (e) Main drainage channels for Ngau Tam Mei, phase 2, Yuen Long (\$32 million); and
- (f) Drainage improvement works to Cheung Kong, Tai Kong Po, Tsat Sing Kong and Ha Che in Pat Heung, Yuen Long (\$31 million).

Works projects involving significant land resumption expenditure in 2004-05 will include –

- (a) Penny's Bay Reclamation (\$1,061 million);
- (b) Deep Bay Link (\$93 million);
- (c) East Railway Extension – Essential public infrastructure works for Hung Hom to Tsim Sha Tsui extension (\$76 million);
- (d) Rural Drainage Rehabilitation Scheme – drainage rehabilitation works at Ping Yuen River (\$45 million); and
- (e) Yuen Long south western extension (\$35 million).

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ PATRICK L C LAU _____

Post Title _____ Director of Lands _____

Date _____ 26 March 2004 _____