

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**Reply Serial No.**

**HPLB(PL)058**

**Question Serial No.**

1721

Head: 91 Lands Department

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Land Administration

Controlling Officer: Director of Lands

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : Under land disposal, the estimated figure of land disposed by private treaty grants for the year 2005 is 209 hectares, representing a ten-fold increase when compared with 2004, and the number of flats to be built is 14 320 units, representing an increase of 5.6 times when compared with 2004. Please provide the justifications for the estimate and the major land uses.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply:

The large increase in land area to be granted by private treaty in 2005 is attributable to the potential divestment of the Housing Authority's commercial and car park assets under The Link Real Estate Investment Trust. The potential area of land involved for this exercise alone is about 191.5 hectares. The remaining 17.5 hectares cover potential sites to be granted in relation to the Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation (about 5.8 hectares), the disposal of some Home Ownership Scheme flats for departmental quarters for the disciplined services (about 5.6 hectares) and other purposes such as schools, utilities, etc. (about 6.1 hectares).

The estimated flat production is mainly based on sites expected to be successfully tendered by the Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited (estimated at about 10 000 flats) and the Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation (estimated at about 4 000 flats) during 2005.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters PATRICK L C LAU

Post Title Director of Lands

Date 4 April 2005

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