

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)062

Question Serial No.

0813

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 : The estimated figure of private treaty grants for 2005 is 209 hectares, which represents a ten-fold increase when compared with last year. Please explain the basis of the estimation.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

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).

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ PATRICK L C LAU _____

Post Title _____ Director of Lands _____

Date _____ 4 April 2005 _____