

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)071

Question Serial No.

0095

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 the indicator of "Land acquisition", the figure for "urban renewal projects (number of property interests)" will be increased drastically from 161 units for 2004 to 550 units for 2005. Why?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

There will be a substantial increase in both the number and scale of projects to be launched by the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) in 2005.

In 2004, URA launched five projects and 535 property interests held by private owners were affected. Amongst these, 161 property interests were resumed by the Lands Department on behalf of URA. The rest was acquired by URA through negotiation prior to resumption.

In 2005, URA has plans to launch eight projects and a total of 1 573 property interests are likely to be affected. It is expected that some 550 such property interests would need to be resumed by the Lands Department for URA.

Signature _____

Name in block letters PATRICK L C LAU

Post Title Director of Lands

Date 1 April 2005

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