

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2006-07

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)030

Question Serial No.

1547

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (3) Animal, Plant and Fisheries Regulation and Technical Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : Under Programme (3), the Government has estimated that the number of claims to be assessed for capture fisheries ex-gratia payment in 2006 will be 320, representing a sixfold increase compared with the actual figure of assessed claims in 2005. Will the Government inform this Committee of the reasons for the drastic increase in the estimated number of claims in 2006 and the amount of expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

The number of claims for capture fisheries ex-gratia payment varies from year to year depending on the number, scale and progress of coastal development projects for the year. The larger number of claims to be processed in 2006 is mainly due to a regional exercise to deal with claims from fishermen affected by the development works in the north-western waters of Hong Kong such as "Tai O Development Package 4 Stage II, Engineering Works" and "Shenzhen Western Corridor". A provision of \$0.9 million has been allocated to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in 2006-07 for processing these claims.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

MRS STELLA HUNG

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

10 March 2006

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