Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2006-07

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.
HPLB(PL)101
Question Serial No.
2011

<u>Head</u>: 91 Lands Department <u>Subhead</u> (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Land Administration

Controlling Officer: Director of Lands

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question: The private treaty grants in 2005 involved 242.12 hectares (ha) of land, representing an increase of 1058% compared with 2004. Why? While the 2006 estimate for such land grants decreases drastically, there is an anticipated increase of 199% in the number of flats as compared with 2005. Why?

Asked by: Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply:

In 2005, the increase of private treaty grant (PTG) land disposal was primarily (over 214 ha or almost 90%) attributable to the grant of existing public housing estates to facilitate the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA)'s divestment of commercial properties. No flat production is involved in this divestment exercise. In 2006, the land to be granted to HA in relation to divestment is estimated to be only about 13 ha while other PTG land grants will be mainly for railway-related property development (about 10 ha) and other non-housing related users (e.g. about 9 ha for school, electricity substation etc.).

Flat production from PTG land grants only comes from railway-related property development and this is estimated to be about 13 800 flats in 2006 compared to only 4 624 flats in 2005.

Signature	
Name in block letters	PATRICK L C LAU
Post Title	Director of Lands
Date	11 March 2006