## Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08

## CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No. HPLB(PL)076

Question Serial No. 1002

Head: 91 Lands Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Land Administration

Controlling Officer: Director of Lands

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

Question: The area of land estimated to be granted by way of private treaty in 2007 will increase significantly by nearly seven times as compared to the actual land granted in 2006. Why?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wong-fat

## Reply:

The substantial increase in the estimate of the area of land to be granted in 2007 by way of private treaty—is primarily due to the grant of land occupied by existing public housing estates to facilitate the Hong Kong Housing Authority's divestment of commercial properties. A total of 41 sites involving about 358 hectares would be granted in 2007 for this purpose.

Signature	
Name in block letters	PATRICK L C LAU
Post Title	Director of Lands
Date	15 March 2007