

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)093

Question Serial No.

2641

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 revised estimate for 2006-07 (\$1,099 million) shows a decrease against the original estimate (\$1,178 million). Why is the estimate for 2007-08 (\$1,197 million) set at a level similar to the original estimate for 2006-07?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

The estimate of \$1,197.5 million for 2007-08 is \$98.5 million higher than the revised estimate of \$1,099.0 million for 2006-07. The increase is mainly to cater for salary increments for existing staff, full-year effect of vacancies filled in 2006-07, creation of 21 posts for strengthening support for land administration work as well as maintenance of man-made slopes on unallocated and unleased government land, and increased operating expenses primarily for repair and maintenance works for the buildings or units therein held by the Administration and supporting development of railway projects.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ PATRICK L C LAU _____

Post Title _____ Director of Lands _____

Date _____ 15 March 2007 _____

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