

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

**Reply Serial No.**

**HPLB(PL)095**

Question Serial No.

2672

Head: 91 Lands Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Land Administration (3) Legal Advice

Controlling Officer: Director of Lands

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question: It is indicated under Programme (1) that there is an increase of 9% in the estimate for 2007-08 over the revised estimate for 2006-07. However, under Programme (3), it is indicated that part of the increase of the 14.2% in its estimate is "due to creation of four posts primarily for strengthening support for the land administration work in relation to Programme (1)". What is the actual increase in expenditure for Programme (1), taking into account the related increase under Programme (3)?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

Under Programme (1), the increase in the estimate for 2007-08 over the revised estimate for 2006-07 is \$98.5 million. Under Programme (3), the Legal Advisory and Conveyancing Office provides professional legal services, among others, within the Department in relation to Programme (1) for the issue, renewal and variation of government leases as well as the drafting and execution of conditions of sale (by auction or tender), grant and exchange, etc. Out of the four posts to be created in 2007-08 under Programme (3), three are related to the land administration work under Programme (1) and the expenditure amount involved is estimated to be \$1.4 million. Taking this into account, the total increase in the provision for 2007-08 under Programmes (1) and (3) for the land administration work is thus about \$99.9 million.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters PATRICK L C LAU

Post Title Director of Lands

Date 15 March 2007