

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)142

Question Serial No.

2452

Head: 701 Land Acquisition

Subhead (No. & title): 1100CA Compensation and ex-gratia allowances in respect of projects in the Public Works Programme

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Lands

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question: Regarding "Compensation and ex-gratia allowances in respect of projects in the Public Works Programme", the estimate of 2007-08 increases significantly by more than three times over the revised estimate of 2006-07. Why? And mainly what payments of compensation and ex-gratia allowances are expected to be made in 2007-08?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply:

Payments made under Subhead 1100CA concern land resumption and clearance required for implementation of Public Works Programme (PWP) projects that generally take more than one financial year to complete. The processing of claims and payment of the approved compensation and allowances are an on-going process. The provision of \$1,867 million in 2007-08 is for payment of (a) the compensation claims arising from 18 new (PWP) projects involving about 18 hectares (ha) of private land; and (b) the outstanding compensation claims arising from on-going projects. The revised estimate of \$391 million in 2006-07 is for payment of settled compensation for the claims arising from 10 new PWP projects involving 6.69 ha of private land implemented in 2006-07 and the outstanding claims processed in 2006-07 in respect of other on-going projects.

Signature _____

Name in block letters PATRICK L C LAU

Post Title Director of Lands

Date 15 March 2007