

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)146

Question Serial No.

1052

Head: 707 New Towns and Urban Subhead (No. & title): (1) 7693CL; (2) 7694CL;
Area Development (3) 7708CL; (4) 7719CL;
(5) 7724CL

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question :

For Kowloon Development, the approved estimate for projects on Infrastructure related to Civil Engineering – Land development is \$424.3 million. The projects include (1) “South East Kowloon development – consultants’ fees and site investigation for Kai Tak Approach Channel reclamation”, (2) “South East Kowloon development at Kai Tak Airport – consultants’ fees and site investigation”, (3) “South East Kowloon development – site preparation and drainage works at north apron area of Kai Tak Airport”, (4) “Kai Tak development – engineering review” and (5) “Kai Tak development – investigation and detailed design for advance infrastructure works for developments at the southern part of the former runway”. With a surplus of \$200 million upon deduction of the 2006-07 revised estimate, please explain why the 2007-08 estimate is \$37.168 million only and give reasons for not speeding up the project programme.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

Following the gazettal of the amendments to the Kai Tak Outline Zoning Plan in November 2006, we appointed consultants in January 2007 to carry out the Kai Tak development engineering review to study in detail engineering feasibility and implementation programme of the development. The provision of \$37 million under Head 707 Kowloon Development “civil engineering-land development” in 2007-08 is mainly for the consultants’ fees of relevant studies and the site investigation works. The remaining funding requirements for 2008-09 and after are mainly for detailed design and related expenditures which will only take place after the engineering studies.

Under the consultancy, we are now in full swing carrying out engineering studies covering aspects of transport and traffic, marine, drainage and sewerage, water supply, environmental impacts, landscaping and the related preliminary design. In addition, the consultant is carrying out investigation and detailed design for advance infrastructure works for developments at the southern part of the former runway, with a view to commencing the construction of the advance infrastructure works in 2009 to facilitate commissioning of the first berth of the cruise terminal in 2012.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Adrian NG

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development (Acting)

Date _____ 16.3.2007

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