

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

**Reply Serial No.**

**S-HPLB(PL)04**

Question Serial No.

S095

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:     Regarding the Question Serial No. 1609 (Reply Serial No. HPLB(PL)079), according to the Department's reply, one Senior Estate Surveyor post will be created in 2007-08 to consider the feasibility of outsourcing more land management work to improve service delivery. In this connection, please advise why the Department does not incorporate the work into the scope of duties of the management services team (MST) and for MST to implement. Is this arrangement a better way in the utilisation of resources?

Asked by: Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply:

The management services team (MST) and the outsourcing team are two separate setups with distinctly different duties.

The MST's work is to ensure that, in respect of land administration, actions being or have been taken are in full compliance with the guidelines, procedures and prescribed timeframe that have been set out in any departmental instructions. At the organisational level, the MST will identify areas within the existing operating systems where changes should be made to enhance efficiency and effectiveness. On the other hand, the outsourcing team's work is to examine the feasibility of outsourcing more land management work to cope with the increasing workload. The outsourcing team will also be responsible for formulating the policy on outsourcing and monitoring the implementation of this policy.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters     PATRICK L C LAU

Post Title     Director of Lands

Date     23 March 2007