

**Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development
Session No. : 3**

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
S-CEDB(CT)01	S027	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	160	Radio
S-CEDB(CT)02	S029	WONG Kwok-hing	160	Radio

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-CEDB(CT)01

Question Serial No.

S027

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Radio

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: Regarding the 'Second Radio Commissioning Project' in 2005, a successful bidder failed to complete the production 'The Ten Competitive Advantages of HK,' RTHK only paid the first-phase production fee of \$90,000. What lessons have been learned from this exercise?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply: In managing the radio commissioning project 'The Ten Competitive Advantages of HK' in 2005, RTHK had adhered to the procedures stipulated in the contract and monitored closely the progress of the project. The contractor completed the production of the 10 episodes on schedule but the quality of some episodes did not meet our broadcasting standard. The partial payment of \$90,000 was made in accordance with our contractual commitment. All delivered materials became RTHK's property. Those parts which met our broadcasting standard were broadcast in 2006.

Despite the problem experienced in this particular project in 2005, we had continued with our commissioning initiative in 2007. Commissioning aims at attracting creative ideas and productions. It provides a platform for persons or organisations to participate and contribute to the broadcasting industry. Commissioning also helps to foster the development of creative talents in the local community. We will continue to conduct commissioning work in a fair and transparent manner and enlist independent panelists to sit on our selection board to give advice. Contract management will continue to be followed through in a prudent manner.

Name in block letters Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date 10.4.2008

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-CEDB(CT)02

Question Serial No.

S029

Head: 160 Radio Television Hong Kong

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Radio

Controlling Officer: Director of Broadcasting

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development

Question: In respect of the non-existence of RTHK's quality radio service on MTR trains, explanation from the Administration is requested. As the stakeholder and biggest investor of MTR Corporation Limited (in terms of both cash and development rights offered in support of MTR's development), how will the Administration rectify this unjustifiable phenomenon?

(1) What are the polices and expenses earmarked for addressing the above problem?

(2) Is there a timetable for a solution?

(3) If the Administration only intends to provide RTHK's service on Shatin-Central Link, the South Island Line and the extended West Island Line, what remedial measures will be taken regarding the existing rail lines?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply: We will actively follow up the proposal of providing coverage of radio service on MTR lines. This will involve the installation of additional transmission facilities and recurrent operating and maintenance costs, which require to be discussed between the government and the MTR Corporation Limited. We will seek to address the matter as soon as possible. As the matter is subject to discussion with the MTR Corporation Limited, the issue of earmarking financial resources for the purpose has yet to come into play for the time being.

Name in block letters Ms Gracie FOO

Post Title Acting Director of Broadcasting

Date 10.4.2008