

立法會
Legislative Council

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Tel : 2869 9205

Date : 8 January 2010

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 20 January 2010

Motion on

“Suspending the construction of the Government Headquarters at Tamar”

Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun has given notice to move the attached motion on “Suspending the construction of the Government Headquarters at Tamar” at the Council meeting of 20 January 2010. The President has directed that “it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in” on the Agenda of the Council.

(Mrs Justina LAM)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

Motion on
“Suspending the construction of the Government Headquarters at Tamar”
to be moved by Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 20 January 2010

Wording of the Motion

That, in view of the series of ‘Conserving Central’ projects to transform the Central District put forward by the Chief Executive in his Policy Address made in October last year, this Council urges the SAR Government to suspend the project of the Government Headquarters at Tamar, and set up offices of government departments in various remote districts (such as Tin Shui Wai and districts near border crossings) and in new development areas (such as the West Kowloon District and the old airport area), according to their respective local characteristics and nature of development; in addition, through providing incentives such as tax and land premium concessions, to encourage international and large local commercial organizations to move their offices away from the city centre and/or to establish divisions/branches in remote areas, in order to:

- (a) increase the traffic to and fro the Central District, other busy residential/commercial areas and remote districts and optimize the use of limited road space and the mass transit system; reduce the traffic and traffic congestion in Central and the neighbouring areas (especially at the harbour crossings) during rush hours, as well as environmental pollution caused by traffic congestion and ‘empty vehicles in reverse direction’ due to an imbalance of passenger flow;
- (b) increase job opportunities in various remote districts;
- (c) lower the high travelling expenses and reduce the time involved in commuting between workplace and home for residents living in remote districts to facilitate the narrowing of the gap between the rich and the poor;
- (d) promote the economic development of remote districts to assist the fresh school leavers of those districts in finding jobs and opportunities for development; and to provide them with feasible ways to actively engage themselves in society and materialize their vision of upward mobility, thereby easing their negative sentiments in indulgence in excessive enjoyment and drug abuse to escape from reality;

- (e) alleviate the expensive land premium in Central, so as to enhance the appeal and competitiveness of Hong Kong as an international financial centre; to boost the investment value of properties in various other districts; and to spread out developments centrally located in busy areas to remoter districts;
- (f) consider leasing, selling or better optimizing the use of the priceless land lot in Tamar, so as to bring promising wealth for Hong Kong people, and the revenue so generated can be used for offering tax concessions to people, leaving wealth with the people or facilitating the reduction of fiscal deficit;
- (g) further tie in with and make the most of the overall development direction and trend of China, such as the 'Qianhai' development project; and
- (h) foster better conditions in Hong Kong for tourism development through measures such as conserving the urban area, providing more open space, improving transportation and protecting the environment.