

**Supplementary question raised by Finance Committee Members in
examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Transport and Housing
Session No. : 9**

Reply Serial No	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
S-THB(T)01	SV017	IP Wai-ming	28	Flight Standards
S-THB(T)02	SV015	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	158	Land and Waterborne Transport
S-THB(T)03	S026	LI Fung-ying	158	Air and Sea Communications and Logistics Development
S-THB(T)04	SV016	WONG Kwok-hing	158	Land and Waterborne Transport

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

S-THB(T)01

Head: 28 – Civil Aviation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

SV017

Programme: (1) Flight Standards

Controlling Officer: Director-General of Civil Aviation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

The Administration was requested to advise whether the 238 aircraft maintenance licences estimated to be issued in 2010 could ensure the provision of sufficient licensed personnel to meet the demand for aircraft maintenance service and if not, details of the shortfall.

Asked by: Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply:

Comparing the estimated number of aircraft on the Hong Kong Civil Aircraft Register with that of aircraft maintenance licences in 2010, the estimated number of new aircraft maintenance licences to be issued in 2010 should be sufficient to meet the demand of the aviation industry. The relevant statistics are as follows :

	<u>2009 (Actual)</u> Number	<u>2010 (Estimate)</u> Number
Aircraft on the Hong Kong Civil Aircraft Register	218	240
New aircraft maintenance licences issued/to be issued	190	238
Aircraft maintenance licences in force	1 606	1 844

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ NORMAN LO _____

Post Title _____ Director-General of Civil Aviation _____

Date _____ 7.4.2010 _____

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

S-THB(T)02

Question Serial No.

SV015

Head : 158 – Government Secretariat : Subhead (No. & title) :
Transport and Housing Bureau
(Transport Branch)

Programme : (2) Land and Waterborne Transport

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing
(Transport)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question :

The Administration was requested to provide details of study conducted by the Administration, if any, on the provision of a cross-border coach terminus in Mongkok.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply :

According to the study on "Area Improvement Plan for the Shopping Areas of Mong Kok" completed by the Planning Department in 2009, a site in Sai Yee Street has been recommended for commercial-cum-public transport interchange (PTI) development. The site is currently occupied by some government offices and a temporary car park. Relocation of these government offices and facilities would be required to implement the proposed commercial-cum-PTI development. Relocation sites are being identified by the departments concerned. Rezoning of the site would be initiated after consultation with the Yau Tsim Mong District Council. The timing of the relocation and rezoning exercise is not yet certain at this stage. The Transport Department will continue to monitor developments and give early thoughts on the proposed PTI, including the consequential traffic impact, the possible layout of the PTI and types of public transport services to be accommodated such as franchised buses, public light buses and cross-boundary coaches etc as appropriate.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ FRANCIS HO

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for
Transport and Housing (Transport)

Date _____ 31 March 2010

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

S-THB(T)03

Question Serial No.

Head : 158 – Government Secretariat : Subhead (No. & title) :
Transport and Housing Bureau
(Transport Branch)

S026

Programme : (3) Air and Sea Communications and Logistics Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing
(Transport)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question :

In paragraph 6 of the speech by the Secretary at the Special Finance Committee Meeting, it was mentioned that the Administration will promote the professional maritime services in Hong Kong. To follow up on this matter, please provide additional information on:

- (a) the specific details of training for the relevant talents; and
- (b) the arrangements in relation to shipyard sites, as well as the specific arrangements to facilitate application.

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

(a) The Government fully appreciates the importance of a strong professional workforce for enhancing Hong Kong's status as an international maritime centre. Below are the various training incentive schemes in operation to support the development of the industry:

Sea-going Training Incentive Scheme

- Launched in 2004, the scheme aims at addressing the shortage of home-grown maritime professionals with sea-going experience by encouraging local graduates to take up the seafaring career. Under the scheme, each participant will receive a monthly financial incentive during the cadetship training period and be entitled to reimbursement of the fee of the first qualifying examination, subject to passing of the examination.

Ship Repair Training Incentive Scheme

- Launched in 2006, the Scheme aims at supporting the ship-repair industry by encouraging people to undergo ship-repair training and become skilled workers. On completion of the pre-employment course, a student entering into a recognised apprenticeship contract with a local shipyard may receive a monthly financial incentive during the apprenticeship. Workers from other industries who possess relevant experience or skills for adaptation, having completed a recognised re-training programme and then employed by a local

shipyard, may also receive a monthly financial incentive for the initial employment period.

Hong Kong Maritime Scholarship Scheme

- Launched in 2007, the scheme aims at attracting local, Mainland and overseas university graduates to study maritime related post-graduate programmes in Hong Kong, and to join the maritime industry.

HKU-DMU Academic Collaboration Scheme

- Launched in 2008, the scheme aims at nurturing legal professionals versed in both the Hong Kong and Mainland legal systems, in particular the specialised maritime law field. The scheme is a collaboration between the Hong Kong University (HKU) and the Dalian Maritime University (DMU), through which students of the universities will be offered the opportunity to study law programmes of the other collaborating university.

(b) When an operator or lot owner intends to develop a shipyard at a particular waterfront site, he/she can first check with the Planning Department and Lands Department on whether shipyard use is consistent with the zoning for the site concerned on the statutory outline zoning plan and the lease governing the subject lot respectively. If shipyard use is not permitted under the zoning or the lease or both, the lot owner may apply for planning permission to change the land use under the Town Planning Ordinance and/or modification of the lease restrictions, where applicable.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ FRANCIS HO _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for
Transport and Housing (Transport) _____

Date _____ 31 March 2010 _____

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

S-THB(T)04

Question Serial No.

SV016

Head : 158 – Government Secretariat : Subhead (No. & title) :
Transport and Housing Bureau
(Transport Branch)

Programme : (2) Land and Waterborne Transport

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question :

The Administration was requested to provide details of government manpower, in particular professional staff and experts, involved in ensuring the safety and quality of rail services and in responding to rail incidents.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The Railways Branch under the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department monitors the safety of the railway system, including its design, construction, operation and maintenance, and conducts investigations into railway incidents. The Railways Branch is headed by an Assistant Director with four Senior Engineers and four Engineers assisting him in monitoring railway safety. These professional staff are from various engineering disciplines including civil engineering, electrical and mechanical engineering and electronics.

The Railway Monitoring Team of the Transport Department (TD) comprises one Chief Transport Officer, two Senior Transport Officers and two Transport Officers dedicated to monitoring railway services and dealing with planning duties of tramways. The Railway Monitoring Team reports to a Principal Transport Officer (PTO) and an Assistant Commissioner (AC), the duties of both the AC and the PTO include bus and rail matters.

The Emergency Transport Coordination Centre (ETCC) of TD is manned round the clock, and it handles all traffic and transport incidents, including rail incidents. Depending on the scale of the incidents, the ETCC will involve the relevant parties, including parties within and outside TD, for follow up work.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ FRANCIS HO

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for
Transport and Housing (Transport)

Date _____ 31 March 2010