

**Replies to written questions raised by Finance Committee Members
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04**

**Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works
Session No. 10 File name: ETWB(W)-e1.doc**

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ETWB(W)012	1280	LEE Cheuk-yan	39	Stormwater Drainage Sewage Services
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Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
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Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)001

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

0102

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme : (1) – Monitoring and Advisory Services
 (2) – Facilities Upkeep
 (3) – Facilities Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (for Programme (1) - Monitoring and Advisory Services
Programme (3) - Facilities Development)
Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (for Programme (2) – Facilities Upkeep)

Question : Under Subhead 000 Operational expenses : the actual expenditure on light and power for 2001-02 was \$3,086,000 and the original estimate for 2002-03 was \$3,000,000, but the revised estimate is \$3,600,000. Will the Government inform this Council of the causes leading to such huge increase in the expenditure on light and power ?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Ping-cheung

Reply : The scope of the light and power item mainly covers the electricity expenses of our Property Services Branch and District Maintenance Offices (DMOs), which are accommodated in purpose-built specialist buildings. The increase in expenditure on light and power from \$3 million to \$3.6 million, when comparing the 2002-03 original estimate to the revised estimate, is mainly attributable to -

- (a) the reprovisioning of the DMO from the Kai Tak Government Building to the Water Supplies Department Kowloon West Regional Building at Cheung Sha Wan. The electricity expenses for the DMO when accommodated at the Kai Tak Government Office was borne by the Government Property Agency, and in the present premises by the Architectural Services Department; and
- (b) the newly established DMO at the Maintenance Depot for Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, Architectural Services Department and Highways Department at Siu Ho Wan, Lantau. The DMO at Siu Ho Wan is a maintenance depot for which users are required to share the electricity expenses.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	C. H. YUE
Post Title	Director of Architectural Services
Date	20 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)002

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure
2003-04

Question Serial No.

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

0289

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (3) – Facilities Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (for Programme
(3) – Facilities
Development)

Question : The estimated expenditure on building projects for 2003-04 under the said programme is \$7,566M, which is less than that for 2002-03. However, there is a substantial increase in the value of projects under design and construction. Why is it so ?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Fu-wah

Reply : The reduction in expenditure on building projects in 2003 is mainly attributable to the completion or near completion of a number of large projects in 2002 under Head 703 - Buildings such as the following -

- (a) 3269EP - Three primary schools at Po Kong Village Road, Kowloon;
- (b) 3005GA - Science Park at Pak Shek Kok – phases 1a and 1b;
- (c) 3006GB - Expansion of kiosks and other facilities at Lok Ma Chau boundary crossing – remaining works;
- (d) 3047JA - Departmental quarters at Hong Ning Road, Kwun Tong; and
- (e) 3049JA - Departmental quarters in West Kowloon Reclamation.

The majority of the payments for these projects were made in 2002.

The increase in the value of works projects in 2003 when compared to 2002 is mainly due to the anticipated advancement to the design and construction stage of more Category B projects under the Capital Works Programme. An example is 3063KA - Central Government Complex, Legislative Council Complex, Exhibition Gallery and Civic Place at Tamar. Construction for a number of these Category B projects would not start until the later part of the year and therefore they do not

contribute much to expenditure in 2003.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C. H. YUE

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural
Services

Date _____ 19 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

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

Question Serial No.

0290

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme : (3) – Facilities Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (for Programme
(3) – Facilities
Development)

Question : The estimate expenses for the new Mandatory Provident Fund contribution in 2003-04 under the said Subhead amount to \$843,000. What is the number of staff involved in such expenses and what are their ranks ? What is their establishment or terms of employment ?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Fu-wah

Reply : The provision of \$843,000 in the 2003-04 Estimates is for 73 officers. Breakdowns of these officers by rank and terms of employment are attached.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C. H. YUE

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 19 March 2003

(A) Breakdown by rank

Rank	No. of Officers
Chief Professional*	1
Senior Professional*	4
Professional*	31
Assistant Professional*	8
Chief Technical Officer	2
Principal Technical Officer	1
Technical Officer	5
Principal Survey Officer	1
Senior Survey Officer	3
Works Supervisor I	5
Works Supervisor II	8
Supplies Officer	1
Machine Operator	1
Assistant Clerical Officer	1
Clerical Assistant	1
Total :	73

* Including staff from the Architect, Structural Engineer, Maintenance Surveyor, Landscape Architect, Building Services Engineer and Electrical and Mechanical Engineer grades etc.

(B) Breakdown by terms of employment

Terms of Employment	No. of Officers
Common Agreement Terms	37
Local Agreement Terms	17
Locally Modelled Agreement Terms	7
New Probationary Terms	12
Total :	73

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

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

Question Serial No.

0628

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) – Facilities Upkeep
(3) – Facilities Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works Programme (3) - Facilities Development)
Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (for Programme (2) – Facilities Upkeep)

Question : In 2002, the Architectural Services Department, after reviewing its organization, management and mode of operation, announced a plan to gradually outsource its maintenance and architectural projects to the private sector in the following seven years. According to your analysis, the lower estimates for Programmes (2) and (3) in 2003-04 are mainly due to the effect of civil service pay cut. The progress of the outsourcing scheme, and its effect on your budget, is not mentioned. Can you provide the relevant expenditure items related to the scheme and the amount of savings achieved through outsourcing, if any?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply : Architectural Services Department (Arch SD) has increased the outsourcing of professional and technical services of building projects from 35% in 2001-02 to 54% in 2002-03 to consultants. The outsourcing will continue to increase in 2003-04. For maintenance works, Arch SD has outsourced 20% to 50% of a range of activities, including the employment of consultants for design and supervision of some minor works, co-ordination and reporting of minor maintenance, and account checking of maintenance works.

We will continue to outsource further the professional and technical services for new building projects, devolve a range of maintenance activities, and strengthen the advisory roles. The Department will also re-deploy posts flexibly to meet the increase in expenditure on minor works and strengthen advisory services.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C. H. YUE

Director of Architectural Services

21 March 2003

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

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

Question Serial No.

0705

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (3) – Facilities Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (for Programme (3) –
Facilities Development)

Question : The Architectural Services Department will incorporate environmentally friendly features in new projects in 2003-04. What are the details of these environmentally friendly features and the expenditure required ?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply : The environmentally friendly features to be incorporated in new building projects include -

- Building services installations that are more energy efficient
- Devices such as photovoltaic panels which adopt the use of renewable energy
- Building materials and technologies, such as recycled aggregates, low volatile organic compounds and unitized curtain wall systems, that are environmentally preferable
- Installations which improve indoor and outdoor air quality
- Green landscaping which provides relief to the dense urban environment

On average, the cost for the environmentally friendly features is around 5% of the total project expenditure, which would be in the region of \$380M for 2003.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C. H. YUE

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 19 March 2003

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)006

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

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

Question Serial No.

0871

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (3) – Facilities Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (for Programme (3) –
Facilities Development)

Question : The estimated financial provision for facilities development is \$29.9 million (4.9 %) lower than the revised estimated for 2002-03. Is there any expected savings in 2003-04 through outsourcing arrangements ? If yes, what is the estimated amount of savings ?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply : We will continue to outsource further the professional and technical services for new building projects, devolve a range of maintenance activities, and strengthen the advisory roles. The Department will also re-deploy posts flexibly to meet the increase in expenditure on minor works and strengthen advisory services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C. H. YUE

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 21 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

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

Question Serial No.

0990

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (1) – Monitoring and Advisory Services
 (3) – Facilities Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (for Programme (1) -
Monitoring and Advisory
Services
Programme (3) - Facilities
Development)

Question : Please provide :

- (a) the establishment and strength (as at 31 March 2003) for implementing the above programme areas by the following categories :
- I. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 45 & above (including the Directorate ranks);
 - II. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 34 to 44;
 - III. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 12 to 33; and
 - IV. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 11 & below (excluding MOD Scale 1).
- (Please provide breakdown by programme areas.)
- (b) the number of posts (by ranks) already deleted or redeployed in 2002-03 to enhance productivity and optimize resources; and
- (c) the number of posts (by ranks) to be deleted or redeployed in 2003-04 to accomplish the Government's "3R1M" objective.

Asked by : Hon. CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, Selina

Reply : (a) The establishment (E) and strength (S) as at 31 March 2003, broken down by programme area and category, are as follows :

Category	Programme 1		Programme 3		Total	
	E	S	E	S	E	S
I. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 45 & above (including the Directorate ranks)	21	17	117	103	138	120
II. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 34 to 44	6	4	47	46	53	50
III. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 12 to 33	49	50	461	422	510	472
IV. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 11 & below	76	73	474	466	550	539
Total:	152	144	1 099	1 037	1 251	1 181

(b) 61 posts have been deleted in 2002-03 to enhance productivity and optimize the use of resources. Breakdown of the 61 posts is as follows:

Ranks	No. of Posts	
	Programme 1	Programme 3
Architect	0	3
Quantity Surveyor	0	3
Structural Engineer	0	1
Technical Officer (Architectural)	1	12
Technical Officer (Building Services)	0	1
Technical Officer (Structural)	0	13
Survey Officer (Quantity)	2	14
Assistant Clerk of Works	0	6
Works Supervisor II (Building)	0	5
Sub-total:	3	58
	Total:	61

(c) To accomplish the Government's "3R1M" objectives, Architectural Services Department has carried out a re-engineering exercise in 2001. We will continue to outsource further the professional and technical services for new building projects, devolve a range of maintenance activities, and strengthen the advisory roles. The Department will also re-deploy posts flexibly to meet the increase in expenditure on minor works and strengthen advisory services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C. H. YUE

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 21 March 2003

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)008

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

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

Question Serial No.

1000

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (1) – Monitoring and Advisory Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (for Programme (1) –
Monitoring and Advisory
Services)

Question : The target vetting time set by the Architectural Services Department is very long, which is 21 days for vetting tender documents, 30 days for vetting budget and design, and as long as 90 days for vetting final accounts. Can both the target and actual time for vetting be shortened ?

Asked by : Hon. CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, Selina

Reply : The purpose of the vetting exercise is to ensure that government subvented and joint-venture projects conform to government requirements and value-for-money principles. The vetting process involves professionals from a number of disciplines who would have to go through complex and voluminous contract documents, design submissions or measurement records. In view of the level of details involved, the performance targets are considered reasonable. Notwithstanding these targets, in practice we adopt a flexible approach to facilitate the subvented and joint-venture projects. We accept staged submissions and where necessary we may give priority to the vetting of specific submissions.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C. H. YUE

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 18 March 2003

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

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

Question Serial No.

1267

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme : (1) – Monitoring and Advisory Services
(2) – Facilities Upkeep
(3) – Facilities Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (for Programme (2) –
Facilities Upkeep)
Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (for Programme (1) -
Monitoring and Advisory
Services
Programme (3) - Facilities
Development)

Question : Please provide the number of non-civil service contract staff employed and the level of expenditure involved in 2002-03. Are there any plans to employ more or less non-civil service contract staff in 2003-04 ? If so, what are the reasons ? And what will be the number of staff and the level of expenditure involved ?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : As at 17 March 2003, the Architectural Services Department has incurred a total amount of \$10.38M for employment of 36 non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff in 2002-03. It is estimated that the number of NCSC staff employed in the Department and the related expenditure will be reduced by 6 and \$0.99M respectively in 2003-04 as a result of cessation of employment of NCSC staff upon completion of several time-limited projects.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C. H. YUE

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 19 March 2003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)010

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead (No. & title) : Question Serial No.

0601

Programme : (1) Stormwater Drainage &
(2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Will the Drainage Services Department implement new outsourcing plans for its services in 2003-04? If yes, what will be the savings in resource and manpower?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply : We are already outsourcing a substantial portion of operation and maintenance work which amounts to about 50% of the total Departmental Expenses of Drainage Services Department.

We are now investigating and planning the outsourcing of operation and maintenance of some of the sewage treatment facilities in Outlying Islands. This outsourcing initiative is likely to result in a saving of up to 10% of the current operation and maintenance expenditure on these treatment facilities, including the redeployment of six civil service posts.

Signature _____

Name in block letters R.T.K. CHEUNG

Post Title Director of Drainage Services

Date 19 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)011

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead (No. & title) Question Serial No.

0991

Programme : (1) Stormwater Drainage
 (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Please provide -

- (a) the establishment and strength (as at 31 March 2003) for implementing the above programme areas by the following categories :
- I. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 45 & above (including the Directorate ranks);
 - II. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 34 to 44;
 - III. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 12 to 33; and
 - IV. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 11 & below (excluding MOD Scale 1).
 (Please provide breakdown by programme areas.)
- (b) the number of posts (by ranks) already deleted or redeployed in 2002-03 to enhance productivity and optimize resources; and
- (c) the number of posts (by ranks) to be deleted or redeployed in 2003-04 to accomplish the Government's "3R1M" objective.

Asked by : Hon. Mrs. CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina

Reply : (a) The establishment and strength as at 31 March 2003 for implementing the 2 programme

areas under DSD are provided below -

	Categories	Stormwater Drainage		Sewage Services	
		Establishment	Strength	Establishment	Strength
Group I	Ranks with starting pay at MPS 45 & above (including Directorate ranks)	30	29	57	52
Group II	Ranks with starting pay at MPS 34 to 44	9	9	42	38
Group III	Ranks with starting pay at MPS 12 to 33	181	175	340	342
Group IV	Ranks with starting pay at MPS 11 & below (excluding MOD Scale 1)	276	274	843	802
	Total	496	487	1282	1234

- (b) One Workman II post was deleted in 2002-03 due to re-engineering of receipt and dispatch service. Eighteen staff (1 Assistant Electrical Inspector, 2 Works Supervisors II, 2 Senior Artisans, 4 Artisans, 1 Motor Driver and 8 Workmen I/II) were redeployed arising from the outsourcing of sewage treatment facilities in Tsuen Wan.
- (c) The number of posts to be deleted or redeployed in 2003-04 to accomplish the Government's "3R1M" objective is being assessed.

Signature _____

Name in block letters R.T.K. CHEUNG

Post Title Director of Drainage Services

Date 20 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)012

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead (No. & title) :
000 Operational Expenses

Question Serial No.

1280

Programme : (1) Stormwater Drainage &
(2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Please provide the number of non-civil service contract staff employed and the level of expenditure involved in 2002-03. Are there any plans to employ more or less non-civil service contract staff in 2003-04? If so, what are the reasons? And what will be the number of staff and the level of expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : The Department employed a total of 201 non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff as at 1 March 2003. The revised estimated expenditure for these NCSC staff for 2002-03 is \$34 million.

We have no plan to employ more NCSC staff in 2003-04 but the estimated expenditure will be \$38 million due to payment of contract gratuities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ R.T.K. CHEUNG

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 19 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W) 013

Question Serial No.

0341

Head:

42 EMSD

Subhead(No. & title):

000 Operational expenses

Programme:

- 1 – Energy supply; electrical, gas and nuclear safety
- 2 – Mechanical engineering installations safety
- 3 – Energy efficiency and air quality
- 4 – Centralised services and special support

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

Regarding the total amount of the recurrent account under Subhead 000 Operational expenses, the estimate for 2003-04 is \$1,648,000 higher than the revised estimate for 2002-03. What are the reasons for the increase? Does the amount take account of factors such as civil service pay cut, streamlined structure and voluntary retirement? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LI Fung -ying

Reply:

The increase is mainly due to additional provision for implementing two new computer systems and organizing public education campaigns on electrical and gas safety and energy efficiency as well as the transfer of resources from Information Technology Services Department to support the establishment of the Information Technology Management Unit in my department, partly offset by implementation of the 1.8% efficiency savings initiatives through streamlining working procedures and tightening up on operating expenditure.

The estimate for 2003-04 has already taken into account the full-year effect of the civil service pay reduction in 2002 and savings arising from the streamlined structure but not the Voluntary Retirement Scheme II, the impact of which is still not known.

Signature

**Name in block
letters**

Roger S. H. LAI

Post Title

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date

19 March 2003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W) 014

Question Serial No.

0480

Head:

Subhead(No. & title):

42 EMSD

000 Operational expenses

Programme:

1 – Energy supply; electrical, gas and nuclear safety

2 – Mechanical engineering installations safety

3 – Energy efficiency and air quality

4 – Centralised services and special support

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

Can the Government tell us why the amount of salaries of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department in the estimate for 2003-04 is smaller than last year's revised estimate while the allowances to be paid in this financial year increase?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply:

The salary provision for 2003-04 is \$2.8million (1.6%) lower than the revised estimate for 2002-03. This is mainly due to the net deletion of 4 posts and the full-year effect of the civil service pay reduction in 2002.

The allowances for 2003-04 is \$0.6 million (17.7%) higher than the revised estimate for 2002-03. This is mainly due to additional provision for overtime requirement due to data input work for the implementation of the new accrual accounting system and increased acting allowances to cater for increasing number of officers on pre-retirement leave.

Signature
Name in block
letters

Roger S. H. LAI

Post Title

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date

19 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W) 015

Question Serial No.

Head:

Subhead(No. & title):

0992

42 EMSD

000 Operational expenses

Programme:

1 – Energy supply; electrical, gas and nuclear safety

3 – Energy efficiency and air quality

4 – Centralised services and special support

Controlling Officer:

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau:

Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

(a) The establishment and strength (as at 31 March 2003) for implementing the above programme area by the following categories :

I Rank with starting pay at MPS 45 & above

II Ranks with starting pay at MPS 34 to 44

III Ranks with starting pay at MPS 12 to 33

IV Ranks with starting pay at MPS 11 & below

(b) The number of posts (by ranks) to be deleted or redeployed in 2002-03 to enhance productivity and optimize resources; and

(c) The number of posts (by ranks) to be deleted or redeployed in 2003-04 to accomplish the Government's "3R1M" objective.

Asked by: Hon. CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina

Reply:

(a) The establishment and strength of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) as at 31 March 2003 for implementing programmes 1, 3 and 4 are as follows -

Programme 1

	Establishment	Strength
Ranks with starting pay at MPS 45 and above		21
		16
Ranks with starting pay at MPS 34 to 44		20
		19
Ranks with starting pay at MPS 12 to 33		102
		103
Ranks with starting pay at MPS 11 and below		54
		53
	Total	
		197
		191

Programme 3

	Establishment	Strength
Ranks with starting pay at MPS 45 and above		14
		14
Ranks with starting pay at MPS 34 to 44		1
		1
Ranks with starting pay at MPS 12 to 33		22
		19
Ranks with starting pay at MPS 11 and below		

- (c) In 2003-04, we plan to delete a net total of 4 posts to accomplish the “3R1M” objective as shown in the table below and will continue to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of EMSD.

Rank	Number of Posts
<u>Deletion</u>	
Electrical& Mechanical Engineer	2
Electrical Inspector	3
Workman II	1
<u>Total</u>	6
<u>Creation</u>	
Assistant Electrical Inspector	2
Total	2
Grand Total	4

Signature
Name in block
letters

Roger S. H. LAI

Post Title

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date

20 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W) 016

Question Serial No.

1123

Head:

42 EMSD

Subhead(No. & title):

000 Operational expenses

Programme:

1 – Energy supply; electrical, gas and nuclear safety

2 – Mechanical engineering installations safety

3 – Energy efficiency and air quality

4 – Centralised services and special support

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

In the 2003-04 Estimates, the provision for Allowances under Personal Emoluments is \$3,820,000, while the revised estimate for 2002-03 is \$3,245,000. The increase in the amount of allowances is about 18%. Please list the various allowances and the expenditure for each allowance in the past year.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Man-kwong

Reply:

Allowances under Personal Emoluments include the overtime and acting allowances. The expenditures for the two allowances in 2002-03 are estimated to be \$0.56 million and \$2.685 million respectively. The provision for allowances for 2003-04 is \$0.6 million (17.7%) higher than the revised estimate for 2002-03. This is mainly due to additional requirement of overtime allowances for data input work arising from implementation of the new accrual accounting system and acting allowances for acting appointments due to increasing number of officers on pre-retirement leave.

Signature
Name in block
letters

Roger S. H. LAI

Post Title

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date

20 March 2003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W) 017

Question Serial No.

1281

Head:

42 EMSD

Subhead(No. & title):

000 Operational expenses

Programme:

- 1 – Energy supply; electrical, gas and nuclear safety
- 2 – Mechanical engineering installations safety
- 3 – Energy efficiency and air quality
- 4 – Centralised services and special support

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

What is the number of non-civil service contract staff employed in 2002-03? How much expenditure is incurred? Does the Department plan to employ more or less non-civil service contract staff in 2003-04? If so, what are the reasons and the number of staff and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply:

We are currently employing 32 non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff with an expenditure of about \$4.4 million in 2002-03. We plan to employ four additional NCSC staff in 2003-04 to carry out assignments of temporary nature, i.e. to process the application/renewal of licence of electrical workers and to develop an application software for data collection of air-conditioning water cooling tower and energy efficiency labeling scheme. The additional recurrent expenditure to be incurred is about \$0.7 million.

Signature
Name in block
letters

Roger S. H. LAI

Post Title

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date

20 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Head: 43 - Civil Engineering Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Slope Safety and Geotechnical Standards

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

- Question:
- (a) How much resources will be allocated for the enhancement of public education campaigns on slope safety and landscaping slopes?
 - (b) How much resources will be allocated for the enhancement of advisory services to private slope owners on slope maintenance, upgrading and aesthetic improvement works?
 - (c) How much resources will be allocated for the work on upgrading of dangerous slopes? How many upgrading works are expected to be carried out next year?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

- Reply:
- (a) & (b) We have a Public Education Unit to promote slope safety and its aesthetic improvement through educational and publicity programme. The Unit comprises two geotechnical engineers and two technical staff. We also have a Community Advisory Unit to provide advisory services and assistance to private slope owners to proceed with their slope maintenance and upgrading works. This Unit comprises two geotechnical engineers and two technical staff. Both Units are under the supervision of a Chief Geotechnical Engineer in the Slope Safety Division of the Geotechnical Engineering Office of this Department. It is estimated that non -staff expenditure in 2003-04, including production and distribution of publicity and educational materials, organisation of talks, seminars, exhibitions and associated education activities, and public opinion survey, is about \$ 0.4 million.
 - (c) The Government has pledged to upgrade 2500 substandard government slopes and carry out safety-screening studies on 3000 private slopes under the 10-year Extended Landslip Preventive Measures Programme between 2000 and 2010. We will spend \$869 million in 2003-04 to upgrade 250 substandard government slopes and carry out safety-screening studies on 300 private slopes.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ T K TSAO

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering

Date _____ 19 March 2003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)019

Question Serial No.

0323

Head: 43 - Civil Engineering Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Geotechnical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question: Please give details of the site selection and environmental impact assessment study for a new confined mud disposal facility. When will the study be completed? Will the fishermen associations and the fishermen affected be consulted during the study? For this study, how much resources will be needed?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply: We are undertaking a site selection and environmental impact assessment study to identify the best site and disposal option for a new contaminated mud disposal facility within the Airport East/East Sha Chau area. This study will be conducted to satisfy the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. We plan to complete the study in late 2003. We will consult fishermen representatives, the relevant District Councils and Green Groups during the course of the study. The cost for this study is \$2.4 million and the estimated cashflow is \$1.2 million in each of 2002-03 and 2003-04.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ T K TSAO

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering

Date _____ 19 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)020

Question Serial No.

0324

Head: 43 - Civil Engineering Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Geotechnical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question: How many environmental and ecological studies will CED carry out in the coming year to understand the effect of mud dredging and mud disposal on the marine ecology? For these studies, how much resources will be needed?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply: CED is undertaking five environmental and ecological assessments and studies related to marine mud disposal in 2003-04. This is to ensure that the effect of mud disposal on the marine environment is acceptable in accordance with internationally recognized standards. The cost for undertaking the assessments and studies is about \$20 million in 2003-04.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ T K TSAO

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering

Date _____ 19 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

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

ETWB(W)021

Question Serial No.

0476

Head: 43 – Civil Engineering Department **Subhead:** 700 General other non-recurrent

Programme: (4) Slope Safety and Geotechnical Standards
(5) Geotechnical Services
(6) Supervision of Mining, Quarrying and Explosives

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Under the general other non-recurrent expenditure, there is an increase of about \$4.9M. Please give details of the items, and the reasons.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply: Details of the items are -

Item	Revised Estimate 2002-03 \$M	Estimate 2003-04 \$M	Increase/ (Decrease) \$M
Quantitative risk assessment of landslide hazard	0.910	1.000	0.090
Study on the use of prescriptive measures in slope improvement works	0.950	1.020	0.070
Provision of warning signs in squatter areas	0.200	0.800	0.600
Monitoring of uncontaminated mud disposal area at South Cheung Chau and East Ninepins	1.450	0.820	(0.630)
Monitoring of uncontaminated mud disposal area at north of Lantau and south of Tsing Yi	2.650	3.213	0.563
Publication of a Geoguide on Engineering Geology	-	1.000	1.000
Upgrading of Lotus Notes System for Civil Engineering Department	0.500	1.250	0.750
Data collection on slopes within squatter villages	0.500	2.100	1.600
Setting up of wave monitoring stations	-	0.905	0.905
Total	7.160	12.108	4.948

The increase is due to the cashflow requirements in different phases of projects, which span over several financial years and inclusion of new projects in 2003-04.

Signature

Name in block letters

T K TSAO

Post Title

Director of Civil Engineering

Date

19 March 2003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO

INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)022

Question Serial No.

0562

Head: 43 - Civil Engineering Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Slope Safety and Geotechnical Standards

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

- Question:
- (a) In respect of “detailed stability studies completed on government slopes and slopes upgraded”, the target number for year 2003 is 250. What proportion of the number of studies and upgrading required is this? How does this proportion compare with those for 2001 and 2002?
 - (b) In respect of “safety screening studies completed on man-made private slopes”, the target number for 2003 is less than the actual number studied in 2001 and 2002. What is the reason for this reduction? What proportion of the number of safety screening studies required is this? How does this proportion compare with those for 2001 and 2002?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

- Reply:
- (a) The Government has pledged to upgrade 2500 substandard government slopes and carry out safety-screening studies on 3000 private slopes under the 10-year Extended Landslip Preventive Measures (LPM) Programme between 2000 and 2010. The target number of detailed stability studies on government slopes and slopes to be upgraded is 250 for 2003. This is 10% of the overall target for the 10-year Extended LPM Programme. The targets in both 2001 and 2002 were also 250 and they were successfully met.
 - (b) Each year, we set the target of completing “safety-screening” studies on 300 private slopes to enable us to complete 3000 such studies under the 10-year Extended LPM Programme. In 2001 and 2002, we completed 316 and 320 studies respectively, exceeding the annual target of completing such studies on 300 slopes. For 2003, we have the same target of completing “safety-screening” studies on 300 private slopes (i.e. 10% of the overall target). The actual number of such studies completed in 2003 will be available in the report of next year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

T K TSAO

Post Title _____

Director of Civil Engineering

Date _____

19 March 2003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)023

Question Serial No.

0993

Head: 43 – Civil Engineering Department Subhead:

Programme: (3) Site Formation and Reclamation
 (4) Slope Safety and Geotechnical Standards
 (5) Geotechnical Services
 (6) Supervision of Mining, Quarrying and Explosives
 (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Please provide -

- (a) the establishment and strength (as at 31 March 2003) for implementing the above programme areas by the following categories:
 - I Ranks with starting pay at MPS 45 & above (including the Directorate ranks);
 - II Ranks with starting pay at MPS 34 to 44;
 - III Ranks with starting pay at MPS 12 to 33; and
 - IV Ranks with starting pay at MPS 11 & below (excluding MOD Scale 1).
(Please provide breakdown by programme areas.)
- (b) the number of posts (by ranks) already deleted or redeployed in 2002-03 to enhance productivity and optimize resources; and
- (c) the number of posts (by ranks) to be deleted or redeployed in 2003-04 to accomplish the Government's "3R1M" objective.

Asked by: Hon. Mrs CHOW LIANG Suk-ye, Selina

- Reply:
- (a) The establishment and strength of the Civil Engineering Department as at 31 March 2003 attributable to the five programme areas are 907 posts and 885 staff respectively. The distribution of posts and staff in the five programme areas is shown at the Annex.
 - (b) 10 posts in 5 programme areas, comprising 3 Geotechnical Engineer, 5 Typist, 1 Senior Artisan and 1 Motor Driver posts have been deleted in 2002-03.
 - (c) The department is considering the posts that can be deleted or redeployed in 2003-04 to accomplish the Government's "3R1M" objective.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

T K TSAO

Director of Civil Engineering

20 March 2003

Establishment & Strength (as at 31.3.2003)

Programme Ranks	3		4		5		6		7		Total	
	Est	Str	Est	Str	Est	Str	Est	Str	Est	Str	Est	Str
I			57	57	14	14	6	6	6	6	83	83
II			4	4	1	1	2	2	1	1	8	8
III	2	2	202	196	76	76	21	21	15	15	316	310
IV	1	1	227	227	145	141	120	108	7	7	500	484
Total	3	3	490	484	236	232	149	137	29	29	907	885

Legend

- I Ranks with starting pay at MPS 45 & above (including the Directorate ranks)
- II Ranks with starting pay at MPS 34 to 44
- III Ranks with starting pay at MPS 12 to 33
- IV Ranks with starting pay at MPS 11 & below (excluding those in MOD Scale 1)

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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

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

Head: 43 - Civil Engineering Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Slope Safety and Geotechnical Standards

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question: It is stated in the Brief Description that safety screening studies of 320 private slopes were completed in 2002:

- (a) How many of these slopes are located in the Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin Districts? Please list the study results. Which slopes require repair or upgrading works? Has the Government issued the repair notice or order to the concerned owners?
- (b) Please list the Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin slopes that will be studied in 2003. What is the average duration for each study? Will the owners' corporations be informed of the study details before the study? Will they be informed of the results of the study?

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply:

- (a) Of the 320 safety screening studies on private slopes completed in 2002, 3 are located in Kwun Tong District and 3 in the Wong Tai Sin District. The findings of these studies are -

District	Slope No.	Slope Location	Findings of Safety Screening Study
Kwun Tong	11NE-D/R46	Sau Nga Road	No follow-up action required
	11NE-D/R47	Sau Nga Road	No follow-up action required
	11NE-D/F401	Sau Nga Road	No Dangerous Hillside Order is required as owners are undertaking investigation and necessary upgrading works
Wong Tai Sin	11NE-A/C253	Fung Shing Street	Advisory letter issued to responsible Incorporated Owners on necessary maintenance works
	11NE-A/C254	Hammer Hill Road	No follow-up action required
	11NE-A/C489	Hammer Hill Road	No follow-up action required

Information on the slopes can be obtained from the Hong Kong Slope Safety

website (<http://hkss.ced.gov.hk>)

- (b) We plan to complete safety screening studies on 300 private slopes in 2003. 11 of these are located in Kwun Tong District and 1 in the Wong Tai Sin District. The locations of these slopes are -

District	Slope No.	Slope Location
Kwun Tong	11NE-C/C32	Ngau Tau Kok Road
	11NE-C/C67	Hong Lee Road
	11NE-C/C68	Hong Lee Road
	11NE-C/C144	Shun On Road
	11NE-C/C217	Hong Ning Road
	11NE-C/CR39	Kung Lok Road
	11NE-C/CR248	Kung Lok Road
	11NE-D/C358	Yuet Wah Street
	11NE-D/C359	Yuet Wah Street
	11NE-D/C543	Hip Wo Street and Hong Ning Road
	11NE-D/R49	Yuet Wah Street
Wong Tai Sin	11NE-A/FR324	North of Upper Wong Tai Sin Estate

Information on the slopes can be obtained from the Hong Kong Slope Safety website (<http://hkss.ced.gov.hk>)

Each safety screening study normally takes about 6 months. We will inform the owners of the study when we seek permission to enter their premises. Where the safety screening studies conclude that follow-up actions are needed, the responsible owners will be informed through Dangerous Hillside Orders or Advisory Letters.

Signature _____

Name in block letters T K TSAO

Post Title Director of Civil Engineering

Date 20 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO

INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)025

Question Serial No.

1274

Head: 43 - Civil Engineering Department Subhead (No. & title):000 Operational

Expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question: Please provide the number of non-civil service contract staff employed and the level of expenditure involved in 2002-03. Are there any plans to employ more or less non-civil service contract staff in 2003-04? If so, what are the reasons? And what will be the number of staff and the level of expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply: Non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff are employed on a strictly temporary basis to meet short-term service needs. Their employment is periodically reviewed in the light of prevailing operational requirement.

The Civil Engineering Department currently employs 157 NCSC staff, incurring an annual expenditure of \$32.7m. Of these, further employment of 36 will be subject to review during 2003-04. Consideration of these cases will hinge essentially on the department's operational requirement at that time.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ T K TSAO

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering

Date _____ 20 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

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

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)026

Question Serial No.

0110

Head 159 – Government Secretariat: Environment,
Transport and Works Bureau (Works Branch)
Head 25 – Architectural Services Department
Head 39 – Drainage Services Department
Head 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Head 43 – Civil Engineering Department
Head 194 – Water Supplies Department

Subhead (No.& title):

Programme: (2) Water Supply
(3) Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Regarding consultancy studies for policy making and assessment (if any) commissioned by the above bureau and departments, please provide details in the following format:

(1) Please provide the following details on the consultancy studies for which financial provision has been allocated respectively in 2001-02 and 2002-03:

Name of consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees	Progress on consultancy studies (planning/ in progress / completed)	The Administration's follow-up action on the study reports and the progress made	Reasons for no follow-up action on the study reports and whether other measures are available to deal with the subjects under study

(2) Please provide the following details on the consultancy studies for which financial provision has not been allocated respectively in 2001-02 and 2002-03, though consultancy studies have been made during the year:

Name of consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees	Progress on consultancy studies (planning/ in progress / completed)	The Administration's follow-up action on the study reports and the progress made	Reasons for no follow-up action on the study reports and whether other measures are available to deal with the subjects under study

(3) Has financial provision been allocated for commissioning consultancy studies in 2003-04? If yes, please provide the following details:

Name of consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees	Status of consultancy studies (planning/ in progress / completed)
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Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply: A number of consultancy studies have been or will be commissioned by the Works Branch (WB) of the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau and the departments under its purview for the purpose of policy making or policy assessment in 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04. Details of the studies for which financial provision has been or has not been originally allocated in the 2001-02 and/or 2002-03 Estimates or will be allocated in the 2003-04 Estimates are -

(1) Studies with provision in the 2001-02 and/or 2002-03 Estimates

Name of consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees	Progress on consultancy studies (planning/ in progress / completed)	The Administration's follow-up action on the study reports and the progress made	Reasons for no follow-up action on the study reports and whether other measures are available to deal with the subjects under study
Azeus Systems Ltd.	Consultancy study on electronic transactions in the works departments* (WB)	\$2,428,000	Completed in 2002-03	Implementation of the consultant's recommendations is being considered.	-
ERM Hong Kong Ltd.	Strategic assessment and site selection study for contaminated mud disposal (CED)	\$135,000	Completed in 2001-02	Environmental impact assessment study for a new contaminated mud disposal facility within the Airport East/East Sha Chau area is in progress	-
Camp Dresser & McKee International Inc.	Feasibility study on development of desalination facilities in Hong Kong* (WSD)	\$2,800,000	Completed in 2002-03	The strategy for fresh water resources has been formulated. A pilot desalination plant study using reverse osmosis technology will be carried out in 2003-04 to help implementing the Total Water Management programme	-
Binnie Black & Veatch Hong Kong Ltd.	Feasibility study on maximization of collection and storage of surface water in Hong Kong* (WSD)	\$1,270,000	Completed in 2002-03	No follow-up action on this study in respect of policy formulation is required.	The report concludes that it is not cost-effective to extend water gathering grounds or increase the storage capacity of

					impounding reservoirs.
MWH Hong Kong Ltd.	Feasibility study on recycling effluent for potable and non-potable uses in Hong Kong (WSD)	\$490,000	Completed in 2001-02	The strategy for fresh water resources has been formulated. The latest technology on reuse of effluent from sewage treatment works will be closely monitored to determine its applicability in Hong Kong. As a pilot scheme, effluent reuse will be adopted in connection with the Ngong Ping cable car project scheduled for commissioning in 2005.	-

* Studies which started in 2001-02. The consultancy fees for these studies are the total provision in the 2001-02 and 2002-03 Estimates.

(2) Studies with no provision in the 2002-03 Estimates

Name of consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees	Progress on consultancy studies (planning/ in progress / completed)	The Administration's follow-up action on the study reports and the progress made	Reasons for no follow-up action on the study reports and whether other measures are available to deal with the subjects under study
Davis Langdon & Seah Hong Kong Ltd.	Consultancy study on benchmark comparison on construction cost and establishment of performance indicators^ (WB)	\$800,000	In progress	-	-
ERM Hong Kong Ltd.	Review of the contaminated mud disposal strategy and the need for an intermediate contaminated mud disposal facility+ (CED)	\$300,000	Completed	The review study has confirmed the need for an intermediate contaminated mud disposal facility. It has also identified the programme and capacity requirements for an intermediate and a long-term facility under different scenarios of growth of future demand	-

				for disposal capacity. We will take into account these requirements in our on-going site selection and environmental impact assessment study for the intermediate facility and the future study for the long-term facility.	
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^ The funding application for the study was only initiated in mid-2002.

+ The need for review of the future demand on disposal capacity arose in late 2002.

(3) Studies with provision in the 2003-04 Estimates

Name of consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees	Progress on consultancy studies (planning/ in progress / completed)	The Administration's follow-up action on the study reports and the progress made	Reasons for no follow-up action on the study reports and whether other measures are available to deal with the subjects under study
Davis Langdon & Seah Hong Kong Ltd.	Consultancy study on benchmark comparison on construction cost and establishment of performance indicators# (WB)	\$500,000	In progress	-	-
AON Hong Kong Ltd	Consultancy study on construction insurance (WB)	\$98,000	In progress	-	-
-	Pilot plant study on development of desalination facilities in Hong Kong – investigation (WSD)	\$4,190,000	Planning	-	-

Studies which started in 2002-03

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Y C Lo

	<hr/>
	Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Transport and Works)
Post Title	<hr/>
Date	March 2003
	<hr/>

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)027

Head : 159 Government Secretariat:
Environment, Transport and Works Bureau
(Works)

Question Serial No.

0565

Programme : (3) Intra-governmental Services

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works
(Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

- Question :
- (1) Concerning the 36 posts to be increased in 2003-04, what are their scopes of duties?
 - (2) Will the Works Branch extend its scope of services in 2003-04? If yes, please give details and the amount to be allocated for such purpose.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply : (1) The 36 posts to be transferred from the Environment and Transport Branch and Environmental Protection Department to our Works Branch are for such central support duties as general administration, finance and information technology for the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (ETWB).

- (2) Since January 2003, our Works Branch has taken on the Government's greening policy which was under the then Environment and Food Bureau. The increased scope of duties will continue to be absorbed by the existing staff resources in 2003-04.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Y C LO

Post Title _____
Permanent Secretary for the
Environment, Transport and Works
(Transport and Works)

Date _____ March 2003

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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)028

Head : 159 Government Secretariat: Subhead:
Environment, Transport and
Works Bureau (Works Branch)

Question Serial No.

0999

Programme : (2) Water Supply
 (3) Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works
(Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Please provide:

- (a) the establishment and strength (as at 31 March 2003) for implementing the above programme area by the following categories:
 - I. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 45 & above
(including Directorate)
 - II. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 34 to 44
 - III. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 12 to 33
 - IV. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 11 & below
- (b) the number of posts (by ranks) already deleted or redeployed in 2002-03 to enhance productivity and optimise resource, and
- (c) the number of posts (by ranks) to be deleted or redeployed in 2003-04 to accomplish the Government's "3R1M" objective.

Asked by : Hon. CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina

Reply :

- (a) The establishment and strength of the Works Branch under Head 56 – Government Secretariat: Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau (Planning and Lands) and Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Transport and Works), which will be included under Head 159 from 2003-04 onwards, as at 31 March 2003 are as follows:

Ranks with starting salary at	Establishment	Strength
MPS 45 & above	63 + 3*	64
MPS 34 to 44	8	9
MPS 12 to 33	43	38
MPS 11 & below	73	77
Total	187+ 3*	188

(*) = Supernumerary posts

- (b) Officers in the Works Branch have taken up additional duties since the implementation of the Accountability System. In addition, one Personal Secretary II and one Clerical Assistant have been redeployed to serve in the Director of Bureau's Office and three other posts have been deleted in the Works Branch and the resources for those posts have been transferred to the Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau (Planning and Lands Branch) within Head 56 for optimisation of resources.
- (c) Environment and Transport Branch will transfer 36 general grades posts of the Executive Officer, Chinese Language Officer and Clerical Officer grades to Works Branch for central support functions such as administration, finance and information technology of the bureau. The centralization of administrative and support functions is the first phase of reorganization of the bureau. Restructuring of the bureau in other aspects is being critically examined. The exact number of posts to be deleted or redeployed has yet to be finalized.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Y C LO

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the
Environment, Transport and
Works (Transport and Works)

Date _____ March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)029

Head: 159 Government Secretariat: Subhead:
Environment, Transport and
Works Bureau (Works Branch)

Question Serial No.

1154

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works
(Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question: In 2003-04, a provision of \$6.2 million is allocated for the expenses of the Office of the Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works. Please provide a breakdown of such expenses, the detailed arrangement and the amounts concerned.

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply: The provision of \$6.2 million is to meet the salaries (\$6.13 million) and allowances (\$0.07 million) of the Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works and staff in her office. The Office is responsible for providing administrative support to the Secretary in carrying out her duties.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Y C LO

Post Title _____
Permanent Secretary for the
Environment, Transport and Works
(Transport and Works)

Date _____ March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)030

Head : 159 Government Secretariat: Subhead : 000 Operational
Environment, Transport and Expenses
Works Bureau (Works Branch)

Question Serial No.

1176

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works
(Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : What is the number of persons employed as non-civil service contract staff in 2002-03 and the expenditure involved? Is there any plan to increase or decrease the number of non-civil service contract staff in 2003-04? If there is, please give the reasons for the increase or decrease, and the number of persons and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply : Works Branch employs a total of nine non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff in the year 2002-03 and the provision involved is \$1.3 million. The Branch is planning to maintain the same number of NCSC staff in 2003-04.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Y C LO

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the
Environment, Transport and
Works (Transport and Works)

Date _____ March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)031

Head: 159 Government Secretariat:
Environment, Transport and
Works Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead:

Question Serial No.

1447

Programme: (3) Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works
(Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question: Provision for 2003-04 will only increase by 1.7% to \$210.8 million, despite that there is a substantial increase in salary expenses due to the transfer of 36 posts from the Environment and Transport Branch and the Environmental Protection Department. According to your analysis, the additional salary expenses are partly offset by the deletion of one time-limited post and reduced expenditure of non-recurrent projects.

- (a) Please provide the expenses incurred by the transfer.
- (b) What is the title and conditions of the deleted post?
- (c) What are the non-recurrent projects that will be affected by the funding reduction? And why did you decide to reduce the expenditure for the above projects?

Asked by: Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply:

- (a) The provision relating to the transfer of 36 posts amounts to \$11.2 million.
- (b) The post to be deleted is a Senior Engineer post. It is a time-limited post created to administer and monitor the residual duties of the Airport Core Programme projects.
- (c) No provision has been provided for the following non-recurrent projects in 2003-04 as they are expected to complete in 2002-03:
 - Consultancy study to improve construction safety
 - Consultancy study on electronic transactions in Works Departments
 - Consultancy study on computer-aided drafting standards for Works Departments
 - Initial study for the implementation of a Construction Personnel Registration System
 - Research study on alternative procurement approaches for public works projects

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Y C LO

Post Title _____
Permanent Secretary for the
Environment, Transport and Works
(Transport and Works)

Date _____ March 2003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)032

Head: 159 Government Secretariat:
Environment, Transport and
Works Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead:

Question Serial No.

1537

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works
(Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question: Following the implementation of the Accountability System, a new Programme (1) Director of Bureau's Office with relevant estimated expenses is introduced for all policy bureaux in their budgets for the year 2003-04, with a view to ensuring the smooth operation of the offices of the Bureau Directors.

- (1) With regard to the estimated expenses of the offices of the Policy Bureau Directors, please provide a detailed breakdown by (a) purpose (including the planning, co-ordination and implementation of all arrangements for the Secretary's public, media and community functions); (b) items (salaries and establishment, allowances, job-related allowances and departmental expenses);
- (2) Please provide a comparison between the expenditure breakdown listed in (1) and the actual expenditure required for the smooth operation of the offices of the Bureau Directors before the implementation of the Accountability System. If the amount of expenses for specific items shows an increase, please give the reasons.
- (3) Has the Administration assessed whether the estimated expenditure of the offices of the Bureau Directors is appropriate? What principles have been adopted in assessing its appropriateness?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Chu-ming, Martin

Reply:

- (1) The financial provisions of the Director of Bureau's Office include the salaries and allowances of the Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (SETW) and staff in her office. The staff in SETW's office provides her with support to discharge the full range of duties under her policy portfolio. It will not be possible to analyze the provisions by nature of jobs. The breakdown of the financial provisions in 2003-04 by expenditure items and establishment is as follows -

	\$ million
Salary for Director of Bureau	3.2
Salaries and allowances for staff in Director of Bureau's Office (comprising Administrative Assistant Personal Assistant Chauffeur Personal Secretary I Personal Secretary II Clerical Assistant)	3.0
Total	6.2

- (2) Prior to the implementation of the Accountability System, there was no Director of Bureau's Office. The duties of SETW are also different from those of the former Secretary for Works, Secretary for Transport and Secretary for Environment and Food. It is therefore difficult to provide a comparison of the expenditure among the respective posts.
- (3) Based on the principle of implementing the business of the Director of Bureau's Office with the minimum resources, the estimated provision for the Office of SETW for 2003-04 is considered appropriate.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Y C L O

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the
Environment, Transport and Works
(Transport and Works)

Date March 2003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)033

Question Serial No.

0530

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 2 Water Quality Control

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

How much resources will be reserved and what measures will be taken in 2003-04 to ensure that the quality of potable water in the territory conforms to international standards for drinking water?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply :

We have allocated \$158.8 million for water quality control in 2003-04. This allocation is mainly for control of the quality of fresh water to ensure compliance with the World Health Organisation Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality (1993). A small portion of the allocation is for the control of the quality of sea water for flushing. As the facilities and staff are shared for the control of fresh water and sea water quality, they are not accounted for separately.

The treated fresh water in Hong Kong is subject to a stringent and comprehensive quality monitoring programme. Samples are regularly taken from fixed points and random locations throughout the entire treatment, supply and distribution system including catchment intakes, pumping station receiving Dongjiang water, storage reservoirs, water treatment works, service reservoirs, distribution systems and consumers' taps.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ P W CHAN

Post Title Ag. Director of Water Supplies

Date _____ 19 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)034

Question Serial No.

0535

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 3 Customer Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

Government plans to allocate around \$372 million in the 2003-04 financial year for the provision of customer services. Please give details on the improvement measures that will be implemented for handling enquiries and complaints.

Asked by : Hon. LI Ka-cheung, Eric

Reply :

In 2003-04, Water Supplies Department (WSD) will implement the following improvement measures for handling enquiries and complaints:-

- a. making prompt announcements of main burst incidents on the homepage of WSD (the web);
- b. enhancing the web to enable customers to make changes to their mailing addresses through Internet;
- c. accepting opening and closing of water accounts by telephone and fax;
- d. holding exhibitions and seminars to enhance the customers' understanding of their rights and responsibilities; and
- e. promoting the Fresh Water Plumbing Quality Maintenance Recognition Scheme to enhance the public's awareness of the need to maintain the plumbing systems of their buildings.

Signature _____

Name in block letters P W CHAN

Post Title Ag. Director of Water Supplies

Date 19 March 2003

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS**

ETWB(W)035

Question Serial No.

0590

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Water Supply: Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

At present, how many remote villages in the New Territories are still not yet provided with metered water supply? What is the programme of provision of metered water supply to these villages? Will the government review the programme in light of the small population of these remote villages?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply :

There are 39 remote villages in the New Territories not yet provided with metered water supply. Of these, 20 will be provided with metered water supply progressively from 2003 to 2004 when mainlaying works are completed. For the remaining 19 remote villages, a recent review indicates that although it is technically feasible to provide treated water supply to these villages, it is not cost effective to do so due to high construction and recurrent costs. Therefore there is at present no programme for supplying treated water to these 19 remote villages. However, the monitoring on the quality of the existing source of water (stream water or ground water) will continue, and the situation will be reviewed periodically.

Signature _____

Name in block letters P W CHAN

Post Title Ag. Director of Water Supplies

Date 19 March 2003

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS**

ETWB(W)036

Question Serial No.

0591

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Water Supply: Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

How much resources will be reserved for inspection and maintenance of slopes and water mains which may affect slopes in this year? How much resources will be spent on improvement to sub-standard slopes in this year?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply :

We will reserve \$40 million in 2003-04 for the inspection and maintenance of slopes maintained by Water Supplies Department (WSD) and the buried water mains which may affect slopes. In addition, we will spend \$75 million on improvement works to the substandard slopes maintained by WSD in 2003-04.

Signature _____

Name in block letters P W CHAN

Post Title Ag. Director of Water Supplies

Date 19 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)037

Question Serial No.

0592

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Water Supply: Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

How much resources will be reserved for the study on desalination?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply :

We will reserve \$13.9 million in the coming 3 years on the investigation study on desalination of sea water using the reverse osmosis technology.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ P W CHAN

Post Title _____ Ag. Director of Water Supplies

Date _____ 19 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Water Supply: Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

In 2001-03, the new leakage rate of water mains is 25-26%. Why does it remain at such a high level? Are there any measures to reduce the leakage?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

Aging of water mains is the principal factor contributing to water leakage in the water distribution system. To combat the water leakage problem, we have implemented the following measures-

- (1) Continuous Monitoring
Continuous monitoring of the water distribution system using district meters, and electronic data logging and transmission equipment is carried out to pick up early signs of suspected leakage in the district under monitoring.
- (2) Proactive Leakage Control
Regular and systematic leak detection tests over the water distribution system are carried out so that repair to leaky water mains can start and be completed in the shortest possible time.
- (3) Pressure Management
Flow-modulated pressure reducing valves are installed at strategic locations to regulate water pressure in the water distribution system to reduce water leakage while maintaining an adequate water pressure.

(4) Replacement and Rehabilitation of Water Mains

We have used the statistical data of water mains, e.g. age, material, main burst records, maintenance history, to work out the 20-year water mains replacement and rehabilitation programme covering about 3 000 kilometres of water mains. Implementation of the replacement and rehabilitation programme will prevent further deterioration of the water distribution system and reduce the leakage level to 15%.

Signature: _____

Name in block letters: P W CHAN

Post Title: Ag. Director of Water Supplies

Date: 20 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)039

Question Serial No.

1001

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Water Supply : Planning and Distribution
2 Water Quality Control
3 Customer Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

Please provide :

- (a) the establishment and strength (as at 31 March 2003) for implementing the above programme areas by the following categories:
- I. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 45 & above (including Directorate)
 - II. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 34 to 44
 - III. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 12 & 33
 - IV. Ranks with starting pay at MPS 11 & below
- (Please provide breakdown by programme areas)
- (b) the number of posts (by ranks) already deleted or redeployed in 2002-03 to enhance productivity and optimize resources; and
- (c) the number of posts (by ranks) to be deleted or redeployed in 2003-04 to accomplish the Government's "3R1M" objective.

Asked by : Hon. CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina

Reply :

- (a) The establishment and strength of the Water Supplies Department as at 31 March 2003 for the 3 programme areas will be as follows-

Programme	(1) Water Supply: Planning and Distribution		(2) Water Quality Control		(3) Customer Services	
	Establishment	Strength	Establishment	Strength	Establishment	Strength
Ranks with starting pay at MPS 45 & above (including Directorate)	89	87	7	7	10	10
Ranks with starting pay at MPS 34 to 44	76	76	0	0	16	15
Ranks with starting pay at MPS 12 to 33	823	774	39	39	144	143
Ranks with starting pay at MPS 11 & below (excluding MOD scale staff)	2 333	2 240	80	79	817	769
Total	3 321	3 177	126	125	987	937

(b) To enhance productivity and optimize the use of resources, the following 138 posts in 22 ranks have been deleted or re-deployed in 2002-03-

Rank	Number of Posts Deleted or Re-deployed in 2002-03
Personal Secretary II	1
Engineer	1
Electrical Engineer	1
Technical Officer	2
Inspector	3
Assistant Inspector	3
Engineering Laboratory Technician II	1
Consumer Services Inspector	4
Works Supervisor I	7
Works Supervisor II	21
Water Sampler	1
Clerical Officer	2
Assistant Clerical Officer	17

Rank	Number of Posts Deleted or Re-deployed in 2002-03
Senior Supplies Supervisor	1
Supplies Supervisor	2
Chinese Language Officer	1
Clerical Assistant	4
Artisan	38
Motor Driver	4
Workman I	7
Workman II	12
Technical Apprentice	5
Total	138

- (c) The number of posts to be deleted or redeployed in 2003-04 to accomplish the Government's "3R1M" objective is being assessed.

Signature _____

Name in block letters P W CHAN

Post Title Ag. Director of Water Supplies

Date 20 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)040

Question Serial No.

1186

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Water Supply : Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

According to the document, the estimate for next year has to be increased by \$22.1m due to the increase in the provision for the purchase of water. In view of this, will the Government inform us :

- (a) the details of the increased provision for the purchase of water, such as the increase in the amount (in cubic metre) of Dongjiang water imported, or other purposes for which the funds will be used; and
- (b) whether the increase in provision will be submitted to the Legislative Council for consideration. If yes, when will it be submitted, and if no, what are the reasons ?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- (a) We have included \$2,510 million in the Draft Estimates 2003-04, representing an increase of \$25.9 million over the revised Estimate of 2002-03, for the purchase of 810 million cubic metres (mcm) of Dongjiang water which is 10 mcm more than that of 2002 in accordance with the Agreement with the Guangdong Authorities.
- (b) The proposed increase in provision of \$22.1m is included in the 2003-04 Draft Estimates under Head 194 Water Supplies Department which is being considered by the Legislative Council.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ P W CHAN

Post Title _____ Ag. Director of Water Supplies

Date _____ 20 March 2003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)041

Question Serial No.

1323

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead(No. & title) : 000 Operational Expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

What is the number of non-civil service contract staff employed in 2002-03 and the expenditure involved? Is there any plan to increase or decrease the number of non-civil service contract staff employed for 2003-04? If the answer is yes, then what are the reasons for such increase or decrease, and what is the number of persons and expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply :

We are currently employing 361 non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff in the Water Supplies Department with a total expenditure of about \$66 million in 2002-03. We have no plan to increase or decrease the number of NCSC staff in 2003-04.

Signature _____

Name in block letters P W CHAN

Post Title Ag. Director of Water Supplies

Date 20 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)042

Question Serial No.

1448

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : 1 Water Supply : Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question :

The Water Supplies Department has indicated that it will develop water resources to cope with the demand for fresh water. In this connection, what is the estimated provision for such work for the next year? And what are the details of the work?

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

With a view to developing new water resources to cope with the demand for fresh water, we have included a project with approved project estimate of \$13.9 million under the Capital Works Reserve Fund for on-site investigation of desalination of sea water using reverse osmosis technology. The estimated expenditure for 2003-04 is \$3.0 million. The investigation study includes setting up a pilot desalination plant using reverse osmosis technology, sampling and laboratory testing of sea water and desalinated water together with cost and environment assessments.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ P W CHAN

Post Title _____ Ag. Director of Water Supplies

Date _____ 20 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)043

Head : CWRF Head 704 – Drainage Subhead (No. & title) :

Question Serial No.

0526

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : What is the number of stormwater drainage projects under detailed design for this financial year? How many of them are major flood prevention projects in flood prone areas of the New Territories? Please provide details of these projects, their completion dates and financial resources required.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply : Detailed design of 23 stormwater drainage projects will continue in 2003-04. Fourteen of them are major flood prevention projects in flood prone areas of the New Territories. The details of these projects, with a total estimated cost of about \$2.7 billion, are listed below

Item No.	<u>Project Title</u>	Estimated Completion Date	Brief Description
4064CD	Rural drainage rehabilitation scheme – drainage rehabilitation works at Sha Po Tsuen Stream	mid 2006	Training of Sha Po Stream
4092CD	Yuen Long, Kam Tin, Ngau Tam Mei and Tin Shui Wai drainage improvements, stage 1, phase 2 – Kam Tin and Ngau Tam Mei	early 2009	Construction of drainage channels in Kam Tin and Ngau Tam Mei
4102CD	Drainage improvement in Tuen Mun and Sham Tseng	end 2008	Upgrading of urban drainage and construction of drainage channels in Tuen Mun and Sham Tseng
4109CD	Drainage improvement in Sha Tin and Tai Po	mid 2009	Upgrading of urban drainage, and construction of drainage channels, flood walls and flood water pumping stations in Sha Tin and Tai Po
4110CD	Drainage improvement in Tsuen Wan, Kwai Chung and Tsing Yi - urban drainage improvement works	early 2006	Upgrading of urban drainage in Tsuen Wan and Kwai Chung

/.....

Item No.	Project Title	Estimated Completion Date	Brief Description
4112CD	Drainage improvement in Northern New Territories - Package A	end 2009	Upgrading of urban drainage and construction of drainage channels in San Tin North, Ping Kong, Kau Lung Hang, Nam Wah Po and Ma Wat River
4118CD	Drainage Improvements in Northern New Territories - Package B	end 2009	Construction of drainage channels in San Tin South, Kwu Tung, Ma Tsao Lung and Fu Tei Au
4119CD	Drainage Improvements in Northern New Territories - Package C	end 2010	Construction of drainage channels in Lung Yeuk Tau, Man Uk Pin, Ta Kwu Ling, Ping Che and Lin Ma Hang
4120CD	Drainage Improvement in Sai Kung	end 2008	Construction and upgrading of drainage channels in Sai Kung
4125CD	Drainage improvement from Tong Kok Wai to San Wai, Fanling	early 2007	Construction of drainage channel from Tong Kok Wai to San Wai
4132CD	Construction of Box Culvert in Area 54, Tuen Mun	end 2007	Construction of a box culvert in Tuen Mun
7022CD	Main drainage channels for Yuen Long and Kam Tin – Tin Tsuen Channels	end 2005	Construction of drainage channels in Tin Tsuen
7074CD	Village flood protection for Yuen Long, Kam Tin and Ngau Tam Mei NWNT, stage 2	mid 2005	Construction of floodwater pumping stations in Tai Kiu and Shui Pin Tsuen
7227CL	Tin Shui Wai Development - Village Flood Protection Works for Sheung Cheung Wai, phase 2	end 2007	Construction of interceptor drains in Sheung Cheung Wai

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ R. T. K. CHEUNG

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 20 March 2003

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)044

Question Serial No.

0025

Head: Capital Works Reserve Fund – Head 705 Subhead: 5001BX – Landslip preventive measure

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : How many slopes were greened and landscaped in the past three years by the Civil Engineering Department? What was the related expenditure? Generally speaking, what percentage of cost does landscape works constitute amongst the total cost of slope upgrading works?

Asked by: Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply: In the past three years, 772 slopes and retaining walls were landscaped under the Landslip Preventive Measures Programme managed by the Civil Engineering Department. Of these, 505 were greened. The others were treated with landscape measures to enhance their appearance. The total expenditure on landscaping and greening of slopes was \$153 million. The breakdown of the above figures in the past three years is as follows -

Year	No. of slopes and retaining walls landscaped (greened)		Expenditure \$ million
2000	256	(154)	33
2001	250	(149)	60
2002	266	(202)	60
	<u>772</u>	<u>(505)</u>	<u>153</u>

The cost of landscape works constitutes about 10% of the total cost of slope upgrading works.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

T K TSAO

Director of Civil Engineering

17 March 2003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO

INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)045

Question Serial No.

0780

Head: 705 – Capital Works Reserve Fund Subhead (No. & title): 5001BX – Landslip
Preventive Measures

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question: What is the estimated expenditure in improving slope appearance in 2003-04 by the Civil Engineering Department? Where are the slopes for which landscaping works will be carried out in 2003-04?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply: The estimated expenditure in improving slope appearance in 2003-04 is about \$60 million under the Landslip Preventive Measures (LPM) Programme of the Civil Engineering Department.

Under the LPM Programme in 2003-04, we have planned to upgrade and provide landscaping works to 250 substandard government man-made slopes in Kowloon, the New Territories and on Hong Kong Island.

Signature _____

Name in block letters T K TSAO _____

Post Title Director of Civil Engineering _____

Date 19 March 2003 _____

[Gototop](#)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(W)046*

Question Serial No.

1248(a)

Head: 705 - Civil Engineering Subhead (No. & title): 5001BX
 5101CX

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question: Please provide details of works in Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin Districts under Subheads 5001BX 'Landslip Preventive Measures' and 5101CX 'Civil engineering works, studies and investigations for items in Category D of the Public Works Programme'.

Asked by: Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply: With regard to Subhead 5001BX, we plan to carry out investigation and necessary upgrading works on the following slopes in the Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin Districts under the 2003/04 Landslip Preventive Measures Programme -

District	Slope No.	Slope Location
Kwun Tong	11NE-A/C54	Clear Water Bay Road
	11NE-C/CR174	Chun Wah Road
	11NE-C/F11	Kwun Tong S/R
	11NE-C/FR6	Shui Ning Street
	11NE-D/C362	Hiu Kwong Street
	11NE-D/C45	Hiu Ming Street
	11NE-D/F10	Hiu Kwong Street
	11NE-D/F31	Po Lam Road
	11NE-D/FR11	Hiu Kwong Street
Wong Tai Sin	11NE-A/C36	Shatin Pass Road
	11NE-A/C43	Fung Shing Street
	11NE-A/C44	Fung Shing Street
	11NE-A/F138	Shatin Pass Road
	11NE-A/F139	Shatin Pass Road

With regard to Subhead 5101CX, we plan to carry out investigation and minor slope improvement works for the following slopes in the Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin Districts-

District	Slope No.	Slope Location
Kwun Tong	11NE-D/C403	Kwong Tin Estate
	11NE-D/C409	Kwong Tin Estate
	11NE-D/C579	Kwong Tin Estate
	11NE-D/F309	Kwong Tin Estate
	11NE-A/R5	Ping Shek Estate
	11NE-D/C20	Sau Mau Ping Estate
	11NE-B/C10	Shun Lee Estate
	11NE-A/C433	Shun Lee Estate
	11NE-A/C457	Shun Lee Estate
	11NE-D/F467	Tsui Ping Estate
	11NE-D/C77	Ping Tin Estate
	11NE-D/F43	Ping Tin Estate
Wong Tai Sin	11NW-B/CR349(4)	Mei Tung Estate
	11NE-A/C4	Shatin Pass Estate
	11NW-B/C168	Lok Fu Estate
	11NE-A/C5(2)	Tsz Ching Estate
	11NW-B/C446(2)	Wang Tau Hom Estate

Information on the slopes funded from Subheads 5001BX and 5101CX can be obtained from the Hong Kong Slope Safety Website (<http://hkss.ced.gov.hk>).

Signature _____

Name in block letters **T K TSAO** _____

Post Title **Director of Civil Engineering** _____

Date **20 March 2003** _____

*Please refer to the following for a full reply to this question – ETWB(W)046 and ETWB(E)077.

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