

(9) in L/M to HYD 3/3/8(A) XI

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25 February 2004

Miss Becky YU  
Clerk to Establishment Subcommittee  
of the Finance Committee  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Miss YU,

**Establishment Subcommittee Meeting  
on 11 February 2004  
Item No. EC(2003-04)17**

During discussion of the above item at the Establishment Subcommittee meeting on 11 February 2004, we undertook to provide supplementary information on the establishment changes in respect of non-directorate posts in the Highways Department over the period from 1 April 2001 to 1 January 2004 in response to the Hon. James TIEN Pei-chun's request.

In line with the Administration's target of reducing the civil service establishment, we have made every effort to streamline our establishment. During the period from 1 April 2001 to 1 January 2004, a total of 34 posts which were no longer required on operational grounds, mainly due to the run-down of Direct Labour Force, were deleted. At the same time, due to the need to implement or plan for new initiatives, for example, the various railway and road projects such as the Ma On Shan to Tai Wai Rail Link, East Rail Extension to Tsim Sha Tsui, Sheung Shui to Lok Ma Chau Spur Line, Hong Kong – Shenzhen Western Corridor and Deep Bay Link etc., and for implementation and enforcement of the Land (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendment) Ordinance which is due to come into effect on 1 April 2004, a total of

40 posts, including some time-limited ones, were created. These changes resulted in a net increase of six non-directorate posts during the said period as reported in paragraph 20 of paper EC(2003-04)17.

We will continue to streamline our establishment by deleting posts no longer required.

I should be grateful if you would pass the above information to Members for reference.

Yours sincerely,

( MAK Chai-kwong )  
Director of Highways

c.c. Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Attn: Ms Ernestina WONG)  
Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Attn: Mr Manfred WONG)