

## NOTE FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUBCOMMITTEE OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

### Supplementary information on 30EC – Construction works for schools in the final phase of the School Improvement Programme (batch 7)

#### INTRODUCTION

In considering the paper referenced PWSC(2003-04)51 on the above project on 29 October 2003, Members requested the Administration to provide information on the schools which have been withdrawn from the final phase of the School Improvement Programme (SIP) at the feasibility study stage, including the reasons for their withdrawal, their present conditions and the future plans for them.

#### THE ADMINISTRATION'S RESPONSE

2. A total of 91 schools have been withdrawn from the final phase of the SIP at the feasibility study stage owing to impending closure, reprovisioning, in-situ redevelopment or cost-effectiveness considerations (including the existence of vacant classrooms, low enrolment and limited room for significant improvement to school facilities). Nevertheless, for the last category of schools, we shall take into account the merits of individual case and upgrade schools' facilities under **Head 708** "Capital Subventions and Major Systems and Equipment" **Subhead 8100QX** "Alterations, additions, repairs and improvements to education subvented buildings" of the Capital Works Reserve Fund and **Head 156** "Government Secretariat : Education and Manpower Bureau" **Subhead 900** "Codes of Aid for existing schools - maintenance, repairs and minor improvement (block vote)" of the General Revenue Account. Further breakdown of these 91 schools is set out at the Enclosure.

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**Information on the 91 schools withdrawn from the final phase of the School Improvement Programme (SIP) at the feasibility study stage**

<b>Schools</b>	<b>Reasons for withdrawal</b>	<b>Present conditions and future plans</b>
61 primary and one special schools	Impending closure due to orderly phasing out of grade levels or housing estate redevelopment.	<p>Nine primary schools have ceased operation.</p> <p>12 primary and one special schools are scheduled to cease operation in next three school years (i.e. by September 2007).</p> <p>40 primary schools, though without confirmed schedule for operation cessation, are undergoing progressive phase-out by grade levels.</p>
20 primary and one special schools	Schools with the existence of vacant classrooms, low enrolment or limited room for significant improvement to facilities, for which SIP is not justified or could not be agreed with the school sponsors.	Under the annual estimate exercise, applications for capital grants for major repairs, alterations and improvements will be considered on the basis of individual merits.
Four primary, one secondary and three special schools	Impending reprovisioning or in-situ redevelopment of the school.	Two primary and one secondary schools have completed their redevelopment or reprovisioning projects. The other two primary and three special schools plan to complete their projects from end 2003 to 2007.