

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09

Reply Serial No.

THB(T)067

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

Question Serial No.

0641

Head: 60 - Highways Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

In the 2008 Estimate of the Highways Department, capital works projects under design and construction, whether undertaken by in-house staff or consultants, are fewer than those in 2006 and 2007. What are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

In each year, there are capital works projects to be completed and new items to be included for design and construction by in-house resources and consultants. In 2007, completed projects were more than new items. In 2008, projects planned to be completed are also more than new items. As a result, the number of capital projects under design and construction by in-house resources and consultants has been slightly reduced over the years. Nevertheless, the estimated total value of projects under design and construction in 2008, at about \$159 billion, is comparable to that in 2007 (\$165 billion) and is more than that in 2006 (\$134 billion).

Signature _____

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 20 March 2008