

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

THB(T)026

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

Question Serial No.

0728

Programme: (3) Railway Development

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Regarding the expenditure in the year for the indicator "capital projects under design and construction entrusted to the railway corporations or other agencies", will the Government advise:

- a. the reasons for the drastic increase of \$2,432 million in expenditure when the number of capital projects remains the same; and
- b. the railway projects that the additional expenditure will be spent on. Please list out the expenditure involved and the commencement and anticipated completion dates for each railway project.

Asked by: Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply:

The expenditure has excluded the remaining entrustment works for the Tseung Kwan O Line project, which have just been completed, but included the design works for the railway projects under planning, such as the Shatin to Central Link (SCL) project. It is targeted to start the detailed design of the SCL in 2008 and the construction in 2010 for the Tai Wai to Hung Hom section to be completed in 2015 and the cross harbour section to be completed in 2019.

Signature _____

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 27 March 2008