

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

**THB(T)028**

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

Question Serial No.

0730

Programme:                    (3) Railway Development

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

In 2008-09, the Highways Department will oversee the progress of the Kowloon Southern Link project. Will the Government advise:

- a. whether there are any measures in place to prevent recurrence of road subsidence or settlement during the construction process. If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? and
- b. considering the repeated occurrence of road subsidence or settlement during the construction of the Kowloon Southern Link, whether the Government has assessed the risk of road subsidence or settlement after the Link has come into operation. If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply:

The remaining tunnelling works for the Kowloon Southern Link project are expected to be completed in about two months' time. Track laying and E&M installations inside the tunnels are now underway. For the past two years, the Railway Development Office of the Highways Department has been working together with relevant government departments including the Buildings Department, Geotechnical Engineering Office of the Civil Engineering and Development Department, Transport Department, Traffic Police, etc. to ensure that the tunneling works are carried out safely and with minimum disruption to the general public. The chances of settlement over the tunnel structures, when they are completed, will be extremely slim. The Department will closely monitor the tunnel structures after completion as in other highway projects.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      WAI CHI SING

Post Title      Director of Highways

Date      25 March 2008