Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

THB(T)042

Question Serial No.

1380

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

The Highways Department has commenced the preliminary design and preparatory work for the Hong Kong–Zhuhai–Macao Bridge. Please advise:

Subhead (No. & title):

- (a) how much is the expenditure involved?
- (b) what are the details of the alignment? and
- (c) what are the details of the preparatory work?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply:

For the Hong Kong–Zhuhai–Macao Bridge (HZMB) project, Highways Department is overseeing the preparatory work for the HZMB Main Bridge, the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities (BCF) and the link road within Hong Kong.

- (a) As regards the HZMB Main Bridge, the feasibility study and advance technical studies of the HZMB are in their finalisation stage, and the estimated expenditure of these works is about \$22 million. For the BCF, we plan to commence in 2008 the Investigation and Preliminary Design (I&PD) for the BCF including the environmental impact assessment for finalisating the location of the BCF, and the estimated expenditure for the study is being worked out. For the HZMB link road within Hong Kong, we have commenced an I&PD study at an estimated cost of about \$59 million.
- (b) Under the proposed construction package, the HZMB Main Bridge will run from the artificial islands off Gongbei and Macao to the Hong Kong Special Adminstrative Region (HKSAR) / Guangdong boundary. Link roads will be built to connect the Main Bridge to the local road networks. The Hong Kong BCF Site Selection Study completed in early 2008 recommends reclamation at the north-east of the Airport Island as the preferred site for the BCF. The link road within Hong Kong is therefore about 12.6 km, running from its connection with the HZMB Main Bridge at the HKSAR boundary to the Hong Kong BCF.

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(c) A feasibility study and a number of advance technical studies on the HZMB Main Bridge are being jointly conducted by the governments of Guangdong, Macao and Hong Kong. As regards the BCF in Hong Kong, we plan to commence in 2008 the I&PD study for the BCF including the environmental impact assessment for finalising the location of the BCF. As regards the HZMB link road within Hong Kong, we have commenced an I&PD study to determine the preferred alignment of the link road and its various impacts.

Signature	
Name in block letters	WAI CHI SING
Post Title	Director of Highways
Date	27 March 2008