

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

**THB(T)046**

Head: Head 60 – Highways Department      Subhead      000 Operational  
(No. & title):      expenses

Question Serial No.

2914

Programme:            (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Amidst the economic downturn in Hong Kong, what is the amount of the provision earmarked by the Government for the construction of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) in the 2009-2010 financial year? Will the Government consider reducing the amount of the provision so that more resources can be used to enhance efforts to protect the livelihood of the grassroots?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

In 2009-10, about \$164.5 million has been earmarked for carrying out pre-construction works including technical studies, investigation and preliminary design of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, the Hong Kong Link Road (HKLR) and the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities (HKBCF).

We aim at completing these major infrastructure projects as soon as possible to connect Hong Kong with the national road network of the Pearl River Delta. The works mentioned above are essential to the implementation of these projects, which will enhance Hong Kong's competitive edge as a transportation hub, and will sustain our long-term economic growth. The construction of the HKBCF and HKLR will also create about 11 000 job opportunities in Hong Kong.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      WAI CHI SING

Post Title      Director of Highways

Date      18 March 2009