

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

**THB(T)057**

Question Serial No.

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Subhead  
(No. & title):

000 Operational  
Expenses

1622

Programme: (2) District and Maintenance

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

While the estimated expenditure on road reconstruction, rehabilitation, resurfacing, and joint replacement works in 2010 will decrease by \$22 million as compared with the expenditure in 2009, the estimated expenditure on highways maintenance will increase drastically by \$46 million as compared with the expenditure of 2009? What are the reasons for that?

Asked by: Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply:

The financial provision on road reconstruction, rehabilitation, resurfacing and joint replacement works for 2010 is \$340 million, while the expenditure incurred for 2009 was \$362 million. The difference of \$22 million is due to lesser amount of work envisaged to be required and is within normal range of fluctuation of the amount of work in different years.

The increase in the financial provision for highways maintenance in 2010 as compared with that for 2009 is \$46 million (or by 5.4%). The increase is due to the commissioning of the remaining roads in the Tsing Sha Control Area in December 2009, and the increase in maintenance costs for the Tuen Mun Road and Tolo Highway arising from interface works associated with the reconstruction and widening.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 15.3.2010