

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

THB(T)063

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Subhead 000 Operational
(No. & title): Expenses

Question Serial No.

2878

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

The indicators of the Highway Department show that the actual expenditure on capital projects under design and construction by consultants in 2009 is \$2,593 million. However, the estimate for this item in 2010 rises drastically to \$4,837 million, almost doubling the actual expenditure in 2009. What are the reasons for the substantial increase?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

The increase in the estimate for capital projects under design and construction by consultants in 2010-11 is mainly due to the fact that a number of major capital projects undertaken by consultants has advanced to construction stage. Such projects include the Central-Wanchai Bypass, the reconstruction and improvement of Tuen Mun Road (expressway section), the traffic improvements to Tuen Mun Road Town Centre Section and the widening of Tolo Highway, which just started works in 2009-10. As construction progresses, the anticipated expenditure under these projects is expected to increase substantially in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 16.3.2010