

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

THB(T)069

Question Serial No.

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Subhead 000 Operational
(No. & title): Expenses

2382

Programme: -

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Please provide, in a table, information on the procurement of services of employment agencies (EAs) from 2006-07 to 2009-10:

- a. the number of contracts signed with the EAs;
- b. the sum and term of service of each contract for each EA;
- c. the number of workers supplied by each EA under each contract and their duties;
- d. details of the workers' salaries (monthly and daily) payable by each EA under each contract;
- e. the total number of EAs hired, the total number of contracts signed with the EAs, the total number of workers supplied by the EAs and the total contract sum for each of the said financial years, and the percentages of change as compared to the previous financial year;
- f. if the services of more than one EA were procured during any of the said financial years, please list out for each EA the total number of contracts obtained, the total contract sum and the total number of workers supplied;
- g. the maximum, minimum and median salaries of workers payable by each EA;
- h. the proportion of workers supplied by the EAs on the existing staff in the department; and
- i. the proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of the EAs on departmental expenses.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

	Type of Contract	2009-10 (Note 1)	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07
(a) Number of contracts signed with EAs	Others	2	1	-	-
	T-contract (Note 2)	5	5	5	5
(b) ➤ Contract sum for each EA (\$million)	Others	0.16 to 0.40	0.40	-	-
	T-contract	0.25 to 0.60	0.42 to 0.61	0.39 to 0.54	0.02 to 0.60
➤ Term of service for each EA	Others	24 months	24 months	-	-
	T-contract	12 months	12 months	12 months	1 month to 12 months
(c) Number of workers supplied by each EA and their duties	Others	1 to 2 General office support	2 General office support	-	-
	T-contract	1 Information technology support and system development	1 Information technology support and system development	1 Information technology support and system development	1 Information technology support and system development
(d) and (g) The workers' salaries (maximum, median and minimum salaries) payable by each EA	Others	<p>The contracts of HyD enter into with employment agencies specify the service fee charged by the latter in providing agency workers. HyD normally does not specify the wages of agency workers, except with regard to the wages of non-skilled workers. ^{Note} Hence, we are unable to provide the information requested.</p> <p><u>Note:</u> As a measure to protect non-skilled workers, the Administration promulgated a mandatory requirement on wage rates for government service contracts in May 2004. Under this requirement, service providers are required to offer monthly wages to non-skilled workers which are no less than the average monthly wages for the relevant industry/occupation as published in the latest Census and Statistics Department's Quarterly Report of Wage and Payroll Statistics at the time when tenders are invited. This requirement applies to service contracts in respect of supply of non-skilled agency workers.</p>			
	T-contract				

	Type of Contract	2009-10 (Note 1)	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07
(e) Percentage of change					
(i) Total no. of EAs hired	Others	2 (+100%)	1	-	-
	T-contract	2 (0%)	2 (0%)	2 (-50%)	3
(ii) Total no. of contracts signed with EAs	Others	2 (+100%)	1	-	-
	T-contract	5 (0%)	5 (0%)	5 (0%)	5
(iii) Total no. of workers supplied by EAs	Others	3 (+50%)	2	-	-
	T-contract	5 (0%)	5 (0%)	5 (0%)	5
(iv) Total contract sum (\$million)	Others	0.56 (+40%)	0.40		
	T-contract	2 (-15.6%)	2.37 (+5%)	2.25 (+81%)	1.24
(f) ➤ Number of contracts signed with each EA	Others	1	1	-	-
	T-contract	2 to 3	2 to 3	2 to 3	1 to 2
➤ Total contract sum involved with each EA (\$million)	Others	0.16 to 0.4	0.40	-	-
	T-contract	0.80 to 1.19	1.09 to 1.27	1.06 to 1.19	0.06 to 1.12
➤ Number of workers supplied by each EA	Others	1 to 2	2	-	-
	T-contract	2 to 3	2 to 3	2 to 3	1 to 2
(h) Proportion of workers supplied by the EAs in the existing staff in the department (Note 3)		0.40%	0.35%	0.26%	0.27%

(i) Proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of the EAs on departmental expenses		0.13%	0.14%	0.12%	0.07%
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Note 1 Position as at 30.9.2009.

Note 2 T-contract refers to term contract centrally administered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

Note 3 The percentages of agency workers as compared with total staff are based on the positions at the end of each financial year (30.9.2009 for 2009-10) and are not representative of the situation for the concerned financial year

Signature _____

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 19.3.2010