

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

**THB(T)073**

Question Serial No.

2793

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Subhead 000 Operational  
(No. & title): Expenses

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 7 that the Highways Department will continue with the investigation and preliminary design for Central Kowloon Route. With regard to the above, please provide information on:

- (a) the latest estimate of expenditure; whether there will be any changes in the estimate of expenditure upon commencement of the associated work, and if yes, the reasons for the changes;
- (b) the number of jobs to be created by the above project for professional /technical staff/labourers;
- (c) the date for the Administration to report on the result of the investigation and preliminary design to the Legislative Council; and
- (d) the expected completion date of the whole project.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

- (a) The consultancy study for the investigation and preliminary design for Central Kowloon Route (CKR) is underway. The cost estimate of the works of CKR can only be worked out upon completion of the consultancy study and design of the project.
- (b) Our latest estimate is that CKR would create about 5 000 jobs (4 100 labourers and 900 professional/technical staff).
- (c) We reported to the Panel on Transport of the Legislative Council in May 2008 on the progress of the study, in particular the preferred alignment of the CKR. Members generally supported the proposed alignment. We then proceeded with the preliminary design and impact studies and reported the progress to the same Panel in February 2009.
- (d) We have collected valuable public opinions during the public engagement process for CKR. We plan to complete the preliminary design and impact studies in 2010 with a view to firming up the implementation programme for the project and reporting to the Legislative Council on the way forward on that basis.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 19.3.2010