

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

THB(T)231

Question Serial No.

Head: Capital Works Reserve
Fund Head 706
- Highways

Subhead (No. & Transport – Traffic
title): Control: (6022TC,
6024TC, 6025TC,
6026TC, 6027TC,
6028TC)

1400

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

The revised estimate of Transport – Traffic Control in 2010-11 is \$120,416,000, which is lower than the original estimate of \$222,711,000. The revised estimates of all approved projects (i.e. 6022TC, 6024TC, 6025TC, 6026TC, 6027TC, and 6028TC) under Transport – Traffic Control in 2010-11 are also lower than the original estimates. What are the reasons for the decrease in estimates of these projects? Will the completion of these projects be affected as a result? What efforts will be made by the Administration to expedite the works under this subhead?

Asked by: Hon. SHEK Lai-him Abraham

Reply:

The main reasons for the decrease in estimates of the concerned traffic control projects in 2010-11 are as follows:-

- (a) lower-than-expected tender prices;
- (b) saving in construction costs due to design enhancement; and
- (c) deferral of payments to ensuing fiscal years due to end-loaded cashflow pattern of some awarded contracts, re-phasing of works, and more time required for dispute resolution and contract finalisation.

Items 6024TC, 6026TC and 6027TC were already completed by early/mid 2010 and the progress of the other projects is satisfactory. The Administration will strive to complete the ongoing projects on time and within budget.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Highways

Date _____ 17.3.2011