## Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12

## CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

**THB(T)049** 

Question Serial No.

1801

Programme: (4) Technical Services

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Transport and Housing

## Question:

The Administration's estimated expenditure on maintenance of road lights for 2011-12 is \$71.0 million, which is significantly higher than the actual expenditure in the last two years (i.e. \$57.0 million in 2009-10 and \$58.2 million in 2010-11). Please provide reasons for and details of the increase in the estimated expenditure.

Subhead (No. & title):

Asked by: Hon. HO Chung-tai, Raymond

## Reply:

The increase in estimated expenditure on maintenance of road lighting facilities is due to the increase in material costs. The costs of copper and steel, which are the crucial materials used in the road lighting facilities, have increased by 16% and 23% respectively from November 2009 to November 2010.

| Signature _           |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Name in block letters | K K LAU              |
| Post Title            | Director of Highways |
|                       | 16 3 2011            |