

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****THB(T)206****(Question Serial No. 1812)**Head: (706) Capital Works Reserve Fund - HighwaysSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (-) Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Director of Highways (K K LAU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and HousingQuestion (Member Question No. 2):

In the Budget Speech, it was stated that the Government has been investing in large-scale strategic road and railway projects, totalling over \$90 billion in the past five years, to upgrade network efficiency. Projects under construction include the Tuen Mun-Chek Lap Kok Link, the Central-Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link, as well as the widening of Tolo Highway and Fanling Highway. They are on track for completion successively before the end of 2018. There are also major projects under planning, such as the Central Kowloon Route, the Tseung Kwan O-Lam Tin Tunnel, and the Tseung Kwan O Cross Bay Link. Noting that construction costs have been on the rise in recent years, please list the respective progress and estimated expenditure of the above-mentioned projects in table form. Do they exceed the ceiling of the original estimated construction costs? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-faiReply:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Progress</b>	<b>Original Approved Project Estimate (APE) by the Legislative Council (LegCo) (in money-of-the-day prices) (\$ million)</b>	<b>Whether the Latest Forecast Expenditure Exceeds the Original APE</b>
Tuen Mun-Chek Lap Kok Link	The advanced works commenced in late 2011. The remaining works commenced in mid-2013. The southern section is scheduled for substantial completion	46,708.0	The latest forecast expenditure is within the original APE.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Progress</b>	<b>Original Approved Project Estimate (APE) by the Legislative Council (LegCo) (in money-of-the-day prices) (\$ million)</b>	<b>Whether the Latest Forecast Expenditure Exceeds the Original APE</b>
	by 2016 and the northern section for completion by 2018.		
Central-Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link	Construction works commenced in December 2009. All 13 works contracts have been awarded, with five of them substantially completed. The construction is expected to complete in 2017.	28,104.6	The latest forecast expenditure exceeds the original APE of \$28,104.6 million. An increase in APE to \$36,038.9 million was approved by the Finance Committee (FC) of the LegCo in January 2014.
Widening of Tolo Highway between Island House Interchange and Tai Hang	Construction works commenced in August 2009 and are scheduled for completion in 2014.	4,486.9	The latest forecast expenditure is within the APE.
Widening of Tolo Highway/Fanling Highway between Island House Interchange and Fanling – Stage 2	Construction works commenced in July 2013 and are scheduled for completion in 2018.	4,320.0	The latest forecast expenditure is within the APE.
Central Kowloon Route	Detailed design is in progress.	Not yet available	Construction cost for the project will be assessed in the detailed design stage.
Tseung Kwan O-Lam Tin Tunnel	Detailed design is in progress.	Not yet available	Construction cost for the project will be assessed in the detailed design stage.
Tseung Kwan O Cross Bay Link	Subject to funding approval of the FC of the LegCo, the detailed design is scheduled to commence in August 2014.	Not yet available	Construction cost for the project will be assessed in the detailed design stage.