

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**THB(T)249**

**(Question Serial No. 4149)**

Head: (60) Highways Department  
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified  
Programme: (1) Capital Projects  
Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (K K LAU)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question (Member Question No. 159):

What are the works progress, expenditure and manpower involved, and the dates of completion of the investigation and preliminary design (I&PD) for the Tuen Mun Western Bypass (TMWB)? In 2014-15, will the Highways Department (HyD) conduct joint public consultation with other departments for the construction of the TMWB? What are the respective expenditure and manpower involved, and the anticipated dates of completion?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The consultancy for the I&PD of the TMWB commenced in August 2008, and was completed at the end of 2013 with an expenditure of about \$22.5 million.

We are examining if there would be any room for changes to the proposed alignment of the TMWB, so as to achieve the anticipated benefits of the project. The objective is to formulate a road scheme which would strike a balance in terms of technical feasibility, environmental concerns, traffic performance and economic benefits. At the same time, we are reviewing the implementation schedule of the project having regard to the latest planning and developments in northwestern New Territories. Separately, the HyD has carried out a number of traffic improvement works to cater for the traffic demand in Tuen Mun. Based on the preliminary traffic assessment, the existing road network in Tuen Mun will be able to cope with the local traffic demand in the next decade.

When the aforementioned review is completed, the Government will report findings to the relevant District Councils and stakeholders. The review is met by internal resources of the relevant departments.