

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**THB(T)259****(Question Serial No. 4261)**

Head: (60) Highways Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Capital Projects, (3) Railway Development

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (K K LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question (Member Question No. 57):

Regarding the Department's work in undertaking the responsibility "for the implementation of highway projects in the Public Works Programme", "monitoring and co-ordinating various activities associated with the implementation of new railway projects" and "formulating plans for further development of the railway network", please provide the following information on the manpower and construction safety of the railway and highway projects under construction:

- (1) The number of workers, imported workers and construction safety figures in the past three years:

XXXX(year)	Number of industrial accidents up to now	Breakdown of accidents by type	Number of deaths	Number of injured	Number of compensation claims and amount of claim against MTR	Number of professional/technical staff (non-local staff shown in bracket)	Number of workers (non-local staff shown in bracket)
Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB)	xxxx	xx	x	x	xx	x(x)	x(x)
Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL)							
West Island Line (WIL)							
South Island Line (East) [SIL(E)]							
Kwun Tong Line Extension (KTE)							
Shatin to Central Link (SCL)							

- (2) How did the Department monitor the construction safety of the afore-mentioned projects in the past three years? What were the numbers of manpower deployed, site inspections, violations of safety codes found during inspection, and the details of promotion and publicity on construction safety?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

- (1) The information on industrial accidents for the projects concerned for the last three financial years are tabulated below:

2011-14 (until end Feb 2014) Project under construction	Number of industrial accidents	Category of accidents				Number of deaths	Number of injured
		Injured by tools, plants and objects	Injured whilst carrying, lifting and working	Fell from height & slippage	Others		
HZMB related projects *	21	9	5	6	1	1	34
XRL	297	146	70	79	2	2	295
WIL	131	35	38	45	13	1	130
SIL(E)	125	42	49	33	1	0	128
KTE	18	10	5	3	0	0	18
SCL	63	22	9	19	13	0	63

* The HZMB related projects include the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities, the Hong Kong Link Road and the Tuen Mun-Chek Lap Kok Link.

The compensation arising from the accidents in railway projects is paid by the contractors of the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) to the affected workers and families direct. The information is not readily available.

The number of staff and workers on site varies according to the programme and nature of works carried out at different times. At end February 2014, the number of staff and workers involved in the HZMB projects is about 3 400 (of whom about 260 are non-locals). For the railway projects, the construction staff are either employed by the MTRCL or its contractors, and detailed information is not readily available.

- (2) For the HZMB related projects, the supervision of the construction works is carried out by consultants engaged by the Highways Department (HyD). The consultants have set up a safety supervision team for each of the projects to look after the safety matters in accordance with the relevant laws, rules and guidelines issued by the Government.

For the railway projects, the MTRCL is required to oversee the construction works carried out by its contractors in accordance with the relevant laws, rules and project guidelines. The MTRCL has also set up a safety supervision team for each of the railway projects to closely monitor the implementation of the site safety measures.

The HyD has been deploying existing staff to oversee the implementation of the above projects.