

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

THB(T)228

(Question Serial No. 4909)

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. 335):

- (1) What is the progress for the reconstruction and improvement of Tuen Mun Road (TMR)? Please provide details on the progress and anticipated dates of completion, etc. for the respective road sections.
- (2) What are the annual numbers of traffic accidents arising from road conditions being affected by the works (e.g. frequent traffic diversion, protruded screws on road surfaces, etc.) since the commencement of reconstruction and improvement of TMR? Please provide monthly breakdowns for the above and statistics on the hours of traffic congestion related to the works.
- (3) What was the number of water-filled barriers damaged due to traffic accidents? Please also provide the price for each barrier.
- (4) How many trees were removed as a result of the reconstruction and improvement of TMR? How many trees were transplanted and what was the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (1) The construction work for the project "Reconstruction and Improvement of TMR" commenced in October 2008. The progress of works is generally satisfactory. It is anticipated that all three sections (Eastern, Tai Lam and Sam Shing Hui sections) will be completed in phases within 2014.
- (2) According to the investigations carried out by the Hong Kong Police Force, the major causes for traffic accidents along TMR are driving too close to the vehicle in front; losing control of the vehicle; careless lane changing; and driving inattentively. There is no evidence linking the traffic accidents on TMR to the implementation of the project.

- (3) In the past year from March 2013 to February 2014, about 2 800 water-filled barriers installed by contractors of the project were damaged due to traffic accidents. The water-filled barriers are provided by the contractors as part of their responsibilities for facilitating temporary traffic arrangements. They are owned by the contractors. The market price is about \$500 each.
- (4) About 5 200 trees were removed but about 224 000 new trees were / will be planted. The estimated cost of planting new trees is \$4.6 million.