

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

THB(T)232

(Question Serial No. 5306)

Head: (60) Highways Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) District and Maintenance Works
Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (K K LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question (Member Question No. 63):

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15 of this Programme, the Administration stated that it will continue to contribute to improving road cleanliness. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee on:

- (1) How to determine whether the road sections concerned require cleansing?
- (2) What are the procedures involved in road cleansing?
- (3) What are the operating expenses, staff establishment and estimated salary expenditure for the afore-mentioned matter in the 2014-15 estimates?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

- (1) The Highways Department (HyD) is responsible for the cleansing of street furniture and highways structures maintained by the HyD under a regular cleansing programme. Besides, the HyD also carries out road sweeping and picking up large litters on high speed roads on a daily basis.
- (2) The HyD has employed eight contractors for the maintenance of public roads in Hong Kong, and the maintenance works include the above-mentioned cleansing work. The contractors are required to plan and carry out the cleansing works as stipulated in the contracts. On high speed roads, the daily road sweeping is carried out under a mobile operation, whereby a mechanical sweeper is deployed for road sweeping and is escorted by a shadow vehicle. Picking up large litter is carried out by road patrol teams escorted by shadow vehicles.
- (3) The estimated expenditure for the above cleanliness works in 2014-15 is \$62.42 million. The HyD deploys existing staff to supervise contractors' work. There is no separate breakdown on staff establishment and salary expenditure solely dedicated for overseeing road cleanliness.