

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

THB(T)035

(Question Serial No. 1403)

Head: (60) Highways Department
Subhead (No. & title): (272) Electricity for public lighting
Programme: (4) Technical Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (K K LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Electricity expenditure of the Government on public lighting in 2014-15 is \$10 million more than the approved estimate. In this connection, please provide the following information:

Electricity expenditure of the Government on public lighting increases year on year with an increase in 2015-16 reaching a significant amount of \$12.4 million. What is the reason for this? Does the Government have any means to cut down the relevant electricity expenses?

Asked by: Hon FAN Kwok-wai, Gary (Member Question No. 35)

Reply:

Subhead 272 Electricity for public lighting covers the electricity expenditure of all highways facilities, including public lighting, traffic signals, lifts and escalators for footbridges and subways, and ventilation systems for public transport interchanges. The increase in the expenditures for 2014-15 and 2015-16 is generally due to the tariff increase by a power company in 2015, increased provision of lifts under the Universal Accessibility Programme, and programmed upgrading of some ventilation equipment at public transport interchanges.

The Highways Department (HyD) has been exploring ways and taking actions to reduce electricity consumption in public lighting, including the use of energy-efficient lamps and, where appropriate, lamps of lower power level, having regard to public acceptance and cost effectiveness. The HyD will keep abreast of technological advancement and continue to explore ways to reduce electricity consumption and enhance energy efficiency.

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