

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**THB(T)248**

**(Question Serial No. 5348)**

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:

- (1) What are the works progress, expenditure and manpower involved, and the date of completion for the reclamation works for the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities (HKBCF) of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB)? What are the works progress, expenditure and manpower involved, and the anticipated date of completion for the whole HZMB project?
- (2) What are the works progress, expenditure and manpower involved, and the date of completion for the advance works for the Tuen Mun-Chek Lap Kok Link (TM-CLKL) southern landfall reclamation? What are the works progress, expenditure and manpower involved, and the anticipated date of completion for the whole TM-CLKL project?
- (3) What are the works progress, expenditure and manpower involved, and the date of completion for the improvement to Pok Oi Interchange?
- (4) How effective are the bus-bus interchanges (BBIs) on Tuen Mun Road since their commissioning? What are the expenditure and manpower involved in the BBIs on Tuen Mun Road in 2015-16? Does the Government have any plan to construct BBIs on other roads, and what are the details and expenditure involved?
- (5) Please provide details of the investigation for the widening of Castle Peak Road – Castle Peak Bay. What is the anticipated commencement date of the construction works? Over the past five years, did the Government ever carry out any public consultations in the areas affected? What were the details and expenditure involved? In 2015-16, will the Government continue to carry out public consultations in the areas affected? What are the details and estimated expenditure?
- (6) What is the progress of works for the reconstruction and improvement of Tuen Mun Road? In 2015-16, what are the expenditure and manpower involved, and the anticipated date of completion for the project?
- (7) What is the progress of works for the traffic improvements to the Tuen Mun Road Town Centre Section? In 2015-16, what are the expenditure and manpower involved, and the anticipated date of completion for the project?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 177)

Reply:

- (1) & (2) The estimated expenditure for the various projects of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) is as follows –

<b>Project</b>	<b>Estimated Total Expenditure (\$ million)</b>
HZMB Main Bridge (within Mainland waters)	9,280 (Hong Kong side's contribution)
HKBCF	30,434 (We are seeking approval from the Legislative Council (LegCo) for increasing the Approved Project Estimate to \$35,895 million.)
Hong Kong Link Road (HKLR)	25,047
TM-CLKL	46,708

As indicated by the Secretary for Transport and Housing at the LegCo Panel on Transport on 16 January this year, the Joint Works Committee of the Three Governments (JWC) had advised that it would be very difficult for the entire HZMB project to be completed by end 2016. The JWC and the HZMB Authority will further conduct an in-depth and objective analysis on the programme of the project. Besides, Mr Li Chun-hong, the Director of the Guangdong Development and Reform Commission, advised at the press conference of the third session of the 12th Guangdong Provincial People's Congress held on 10 February this year that, as the HZMB project encountered many unforeseen difficulties and technical problems, it appeared to be very difficult to commission the HZMB by end 2016.

As for the local projects in Hong Kong, according to the current progress, the HKBCF and HKLR projects may not be completed in time by end 2016. The Highways Department (HyD) is reviewing the anticipated completion dates. As for the TM-CLKL, its Southern Connection is expected to dovetail with the commissioning of the HZMB whereas the Northern Connection is targeted for completion in 2018.

The works of the HZMB Main Bridge are overseen by the HZMB Authority in the Mainland. The HyD has been deploying existing staff to oversee the implementation of the HKBCF, the HKLR and the TM-CLKL projects, with the assistance of consultants engaged by the HyD.

- (3) The construction works for the "Improvement to Pok Oi Interchange" project commenced in November 2012 and are scheduled for completion in the first quarter of 2016. A slip road connecting the southbound carriageway of Pok Oi Flyover to the ground level section of Yuen Long Highway has been open for public use since February 2015. The estimated cost for the project is \$264 million. The HyD deploys in-house staff resources to manage the project and supervise the construction works, with the assistance of a consultant on the administration of the contract.

- (4) The BBIs on Tuen Mun Road currently serve 25 regular franchised bus routes. On average, about 24 000 passengers make use of the BBIs daily, with about 14 000 passengers using the Tuen Mun bound BBI and about 10 000 passengers using the Kowloon bound BBI. The BBIs are operating smoothly and well-received by the residents.

In 2015-16, the estimated expenditure for the Tuen Mun Road BBIs project is about \$17 million. Design and supervision of the works are carried out by consultants engaged by the HyD. The HyD deploys existing staff to oversee implementation of the project.

The Transport Department (TD) and franchised bus companies will continue to closely monitor the operation of the Tuen Mun Road BBIs and passenger demand in Tuen Mun and Yuen Long. The TD will continue to explore with bus companies on the provision of enhanced interchange facilities at other suitable locations.

- (5) The HyD carried out an investigation study for the “Widening of Castle Peak Road – Castle Peak Bay” project from June 2012 to June 2014 to look into the engineering feasibility of the proposed road widening works. The HyD is carrying out detailed design for the project. Following gazettal of the proposed road scheme under the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap 370) in January 2014, the HyD has been handling the objections received thereafter. Funding for the implementation of the project will be sought in due course after authorisation of the proposed road scheme.

The HyD conducted public consultations at the investigation stage from February to December 2013 and at the detailed design stage from January 2014 onwards. Various stakeholders including the Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) and residents of the estates along the road section were consulted. In 2015-16, the HyD will continue to consult the TMDC and other stakeholders as necessary by deploying existing staff resources.

- (6) The “Reconstruction and Improvement of Tuen Mun Road” project was substantially completed in December 2014. The estimated expenditure for the construction works in 2015-16 is about \$187 million, mainly for the settlement of project accounts and for carrying out outstanding works. The design and supervision of works are carried out by consultants engaged by the HyD. The HyD deploys existing staff resources to oversee the implementation of the project.
- (7) The “Traffic Improvements to Tuen Mun Road Town Centre Section” project was substantially completed in February 2014. The estimated expenditure for construction works in 2015-16 is about \$40 million, mainly for the settlement of project accounts and for carrying out outstanding works. The design and supervision of works are carried out by consultants engaged by the HyD. The HyD deploys existing staff resources to oversee the implementation of the project.

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