

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**THB(T)242**

**(Question Serial No. 6051)**

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:

- (1) Over the past year, how many reports or complaints on subsidence of footpaths did the Department receive in total? Please provide by District Council details of the cases, cause of subsidence, number of casualties and expenses on maintenance and repair? and
- (2) Over the past year, what were the quantity of eco-paving blocks procured and the expenses incurred for footpath works?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth (Member Question No. 357)

Reply:

- (1) In 2014, the Highways Department (HyD) received from the public a total of five reports/complaints on subsidence of footpaths under its ambit. The road subsidence in these five cases was all due to erosion of soil underground.

Two of these cases, which took place in the Kowloon City and Yau Tsim Mong (YTM) districts, were considered to involve the improper handling of construction works nearby. No report of injury was received. The responsible persons of the relevant sites carried out repair works for the damaged footpaths immediately.

The other two cases, which took place in the Tsuen Wan and YTM districts, were believed to be due to damaged underground conduits. No report of injury was received. Repair works were undertaken by the HyD at a cost of about \$3,600 and the Drainage Services Department at a cost of about \$10,000 respectively.

The remaining case took place in Wan Chai District. One person was injured. Repair works were carried out by the contractor of the construction site nearby immediately. The Government is conducting investigation into the causes of the road subsidence.

- (2) In 2014, about 158 800 square metres of eco-pavers were used for paving footpaths under the HyD's ambit. The expenditure incurred was about \$87.7 million.

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