Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2016-17

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)226

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 5854)

Head: (60) Highways Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

<u>Programme</u>: (2) District and Maintenance Works

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Highways (K K LAU)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Development

Question:

Over the past year, what was the number of shotcreted slopes on which greening works were completed by the Highways Department (HyD)? What greening means was used? What are the details of the greening works for shotcreted slopes in the coming year?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 165)

Reply:

The Highways Department (HyD) carried out greening works for 12 shotcreted slopes in 2015-16 and plans to carry out greening works for 17 shotcreted slopes in 2016-17.

In selecting slopes for greening works, HyD will consider the following criteria: impact on slope stability, availability of adequate planting space and sunlight, potential and sustainability of landscape improvement to the surrounding areas and cost effectiveness. HyD will carry out greening works, if feasible, when there are upgrading/improvement works for the selected slopes. The greening works include the planting of climbers, shrubs, groundcover at toe planters where appropriate, and will be designed and implemented according to the relevant guidelines promulgated by the Geotechnical Engineering Office of the Civil Engineering and Development Department.