

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**THB(T)030****(Question Serial No. 0135)**Head: (60) Highways DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Capital ProjectsControlling Officer: Director of Highways (Daniel K W CHUNG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and HousingQuestion:

The estimated expenditure of Programme (1) for 2017-18 is higher than the revised estimate of the current year by \$31.7 million. This is mainly for filling of vacancies as well as the creation of 3 posts. Please set out the nature of work and salary expenses of the new posts.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (Member Question No. 30)Reply:

The estimated expenditure of Programme (1) for 2017-18 is higher than the revised estimate of the current year by \$31.7 million. This is mainly for filling of vacancies, salary increments, salary expenses due to pre-retirement leave of staff, general departmental expenses and net increase of 3 posts in 2017-18.

Under Programme (1), 4 time-limited posts of the Highways Department (HyD) will lapse in 2017-18, including 1 Senior Architect with annual salary cost of \$1,363,920, 1 Architect/Assistant Architect with annual salary cost of \$732,630, 1 Senior Geotechnical Engineer with annual salary cost of \$1,363,920 and 1 Engineer/Assistant Engineer with annual salary cost of \$732,630. Due to the creation of 7 new posts in the HyD in the same year, there is a net increase of 3 posts in the staff establishment under Programme (1) in 2017-18. The ranks, annual staff costs (in terms of notional annual mid-point salary) and duties of the 7 new posts are summarised below:

Rank	Number of Posts	Annual Staff Cost (\$)	Duties
Senior Engineer	1	1,363,920	To implement noise mitigation projects
Engineer/Assistant Engineer	1	732,630	Provision of covers on public walkways connecting to major public transport interchanges or railway stations

Rank	Number of Posts	Annual Staff Cost (\$)	Duties
Senior Engineer	1	1,363,920	To implement Hillside Escalator Links and Elevator Systems Projects
Engineer/Assistant Engineer	2	1,465,260	
Engineer/Assistant Engineer	2	1,465,260	To manage the impact of infrastructure works on traffic and transport and the replacement process of transport infrastructure and facilities
Total	7	6,390,990	

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