

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**THB(T)045**

**(Question Serial No. 2315)**

Head: (60) Highways Department

Subhead (No. & title): (661) Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)

Programme: (-) Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (Daniel K W CHUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

It was pointed out under Capital Account that the funding for Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote) is higher than the revised estimate of 2016-17 by \$2,727,000 (68.2%), which is mainly due to the increased requirement for equipment. Regarding the significant increase mentioned above, please provide the reasons in detail as well as the projects and staff establishment involved.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (Member Question No. 3)

Reply:

The ambit of Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote) covers minor capital expenditure on plant and equipment (except administrative computer systems) with the cost of individual items above \$200,000 but not exceeding \$10 million.

The funding of \$6.727 million in 2017-18, which is higher than the revised estimate of 2016-17 by \$2.727 million, is mainly due to the increased requirement for equipment. The amount of \$6.727 million will be used in replacing and purchasing the following items of equipment:

(1)	Replacement of an old automated telephone system for the government departments in Nan Fung Commercial Centre (including the office of Urban Region (Kowloon) of the Highways Department (HyD) and offices of other departments)
(2)	Replacement of 3 sets of old and malfunctioning Survey Total Station Equipment to support the surveying work of the HyD
(3)	Purchase of 2 maintenance access gantries for repainting the main cables of the Tsing Ma Bridge
(4)	Introducing the use of Building Information Modelling to further ascertain its applicability to road construction works

The purchase of the above items does not involve any increase in staff establishment.

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