

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**THB(T)042****(Question Serial No. 3091)**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 Tuen Mun - Chek Lap Kok Link is one of the projects implemented by the Department. Under the conditions of the Environmental Permit for the operation and construction of the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities of the Hong Kong - Zhuhai - Macao Bridge, artificial reefs with a volume of 10 800 cubic metres must be deployed within The Brothers Marine Park as an ecology and fisheries compensatory and enhancement measure while fish fry / fingerlings are to be released within the boundary of the artificial reefs. Please advise on -

(a) The date, location, expenses, species as well as the manpower involved in releasing fish fry / fingerlings for the project in the past three years, using the table below:

Date of releasing fish fry / fingerlings	Location for releasing fish fry / fingerlings	Species and number of fish fry/ fingerlings released	Expenses on releasing fish fry / fingerlings	Manpower involved in releasing fish fry / fingerlings	Company tasked to release fish fry / fingerlings

(b) Had monitoring been conducted after releasing fish fry / fingerlings for the project in the past 3 years? How did the Department evaluate the results and effectiveness of releasing fish fry / fingerlings?

(c) The date, location, expenses, types as well as the manpower involved in constructing artificial reefs for the project in the past 3 years, using the table below:

Date of constructing artificial reefs	Location of artificial reefs	Size of artificial reefs	Expenses on constructing of artificial reefs	Manpower involved in constructing artificial reefs	Company tasked to construct artificial reefs

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (Member Question No. 50)

Reply:

According to the recommendations of the environmental impact assessment report of the Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities (HKBCF) and the Hong Kong Link Road projects of the Hong Kong - Zhuhai - Macao Bridge (HZMB), fry are to be released within the boundary of the newly established Brothers Marine Park as well as the existing Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park by the Highways Department (HyD) as a measure to enhance fishery resources in the waters. A release trial was conducted on 5 September 2014 in the waters near the Brothers, with a total of about 40 000 fry of yellow croaker and about 60 000 fry of threadfin released. The aim of the release trial was to gather information related to the actual operation of a fry release, and with the trial serving as a reference to our design and tendering of the fry release contract in the future, subsequent working arrangements can therefore be improved. The release trial was conducted by the contractor of reclamation works for the HKBCF of the HZMB and the record of the number of workers tasked with the release was not available. As this was not a formal release to enhance fishery resources, with the major purpose of the release trial being gathering information on the actual arrangements (such as the time the fry supplier needed to deliver the fry to Hong Kong, the mortality rate of the fry during the delivery and important points to note during the delivery), we did not take any post-release action to monitor the situation afterwards. Besides, we are now actively preparing for the deployment of artificial reefs with a volume of 10 800 cubic metres within the Brothers Marine Park as well as the tendering for the fry release exercise, which are anticipated to be implemented in 2018.

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