

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SV-THB(T)01

(Question Serial No. SV023)

Head: (60) Highways Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) District and Maintenance Works
Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (Daniel K W CHUNG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

This is a follow-up question on the reply no. THB(T)036:

Currently, there are quite a number of roads in the urban areas with damaged or defective surfaces, including openings, cracks or unevenness etc. which pose danger to road users (including pedestrians and cyclists). In this regard, what follow-up measures would the Government take?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wing-hang, Dennis

(Asked at 6:42 p.m. on 5 April 2017)

Reply:

The Highways Department (HyD) is responsible for maintenance of all public roads and structural integrity of road surfaces to safeguard the safety of road users.

The work of road maintenance can roughly be divided into “corrective repairs” and “planned maintenance”. Corrective repair works cover rectification of defects identified through reports received or regular visits and inspections to return the road surfaces to normal conditions as soon as possible. Corrective repair works mainly involve works such as patching of pot holes or small-scale repairs to road surfaces. On the other hand, planned maintenance is preventive in nature, the priorities and programmes of which are determined on the basis of the design standard and current conditions of individual highway facilities, as well as the quality and durability of the materials employed. The aim of planned maintenance works is to allow more comprehensive rehabilitation works bringing long lasting improvement when the facilities show signs of partial wear and tear but yet to develop into extensive serious defects. Such works are usually of a larger scale and take more time to complete.

In general, for non-structural defects which affect road safety (such as uneven road surfaces, pot holes, cracks, etc.), the HyD will use bituminous material or rapid hardening material as

patching substance to rectify the defective road surfaces as soon as possible, so as to maintain the road in safe and proper conditions for public use.

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