

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**THB(T)023**

**(Question Serial No. 2461)**

Head: (60) Highways Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (4) Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (Jimmy P M CHAN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Under Programme (4) Technical Services, it is estimated that the expenditure will be over \$861 million, and the indicators cover the implementation of landscape cases and maintenance of road lights. As decorative lights on the Ap Lei Chau Bridge have long been damaged and were not even turned on in recent months, failing to brighten up the night view on both sides of the Aberdeen Typhoon Shelters, please advise this Committee of the following –

To complement the Aberdeen Tourism Project, decorative lights were retrofitted at the Ap Lei Chau Bridge in around 2010. Was it the first trial project to decorate normal vehicular bridges? What are the results of evaluation so far?

Will the Department prepare to set aside resources in 2019-20 to maintain or improve the above-mentioned system? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

With appropriate design and preparation, decorative lights on sea-crossing vehicular bridges are well-received by local residents. Will the Government continue to implement similar projects to beautify the landscape of these districts?

Asked by: Hon LAM Cheuk-ting (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

The Aberdeen Tourism Project was initiated by the Tourism Commission under the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau. The scope of the project included the improvement works for the promenade on both sides of the Aberdeen Harbour as well as Ap Lei Chau Main Street and adjacent streets, with the theme of a traditional fishermen's village. It also included other associated works in the Aberdeen Harbour area, such as decorative lighting at the Ap Lei Chau Bridge. The improvement works had been completed. The decorative lighting system installed under the Aberdeen Tourism Project was handed over to the Home Affairs Department and the Highways Department (HyD) in December 2012 for management and maintenance respectively.

As the said decorative lighting system is ageing, the HyD is working with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department to come up with a repair/improvement plan. Resources required for the maintenance and improvement works of the decorative lighting system at the Ap Lei Chau Bridge in 2019-20 are covered by the overall estimate for “expenditure on highways maintenance” under Programme (2) District and Maintenance Works. Meanwhile, HyD has no similar decorative lighting project in hand.

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