

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

TLB016

(Question Serial No. 0611)

Head: (60) Highways Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Railway Development
Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (Jimmy P M CHAN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Logistics

Question:

The provision under this programme for 2023-24 is \$79.4 million (33.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2022-23. This is mainly due to the increased provision for filling of vacancies, general departmental expenses, consultancy studies on new railway projects, and a net increase of 23 posts. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

1. What are the staff establishment, details of work and estimated expenditure of the 23 new posts?
2. What are the details of the consultancy studies of the new railway projects which the Government planned to commence in 2023-24?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

1. The 23 proposed new time-limited posts are responsible for taking forward the railway projects in the Northern Metropolis. They are responsible for drawing up railway schemes, formulating implementation strategy, liaising with relevant Mainland authorities (for cross-boundary railway projects) and other stakeholders, resolving project interface issues and overseeing the implementation of the railway projects. The salary provision (in terms of notional annual mid-point salary) for the 23 posts is \$18.0 million in 2023-24.
2. In line with established arrangement, we will engage a consultant to assist the Government in verifying the financial arrangement of the Hung Shui Kiu Station project in 2023.

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