

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

TLB018

(Question Serial No. 1491)

Head: (60) Highways Department
Subhead (No. & title): (272) Electricity for public lighting
Programme: (4) Technical Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (Jimmy P M CHAN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Logistics

Question:

In order to encourage environmental protection and the use of renewable energy, the Government has installed solar road lights in some remote areas in the countryside and country parks. Will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. How many solar road lights are there in Hong Kong currently? What is the total installation expenditure?
2. What is the expenditure for lighting maintenance for this financial year? How much was saved in electricity costs for this financial year?
3. How many solar road lights were planned for installation in the coming three financial years? What is the expenditure for installation of new solar road lights each financial year?

Asked by: Hon TANG Ka-piu (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

The Highways Department (HyD) is responsible for installation of road lights for public roads and roads in need in villages under the "Village Lighting Programme". On roads in remote villages where power supply is not yet available, solar powered lights may be installed as an interim measure to provide limited lighting services. Upon the availability of permanent power supply, the solar powered lights would be replaced by ordinary lights with a view to providing more reliable public lighting services.

1. There are currently 30 solar powered lights mainly installed on roads in remote villages in the New Territories. The installation cost is about \$370,000.
2. The maintenance costs for the solar powered lights are about \$1,000 in 2022-23. It is estimated that the total annual cost saving in electricity for the solar powered lights is about \$7,500.

3. In the coming three financial years, it is estimated that HyD will install approximately 100 solar powered lights in various districts at an installation cost of about \$1.25 million.

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