

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-TLB002**

**(Question Serial No. S027)**

Head: (60) Highways Department  
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses  
Programme: (3) Railway Development  
Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (YAU Kwok-ting)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Logistics

Question:

The reply to Question (d) mentioned that the Government was preparing for the implementation works of the next stage of the proposed Central Rail Link. Are there any anticipated commencement and completion schedules at present? If the alignment has been finalised, will the Government consider commencing the statutory procedures, such as the Environmental Impact Assessment, land resumption, etc. in advance?

Asked by: Hon LAM Wai-kong

Reply:

The proposed Central Rail Link is approximately 17 km long, connecting Kam Tin to Kowloon Tong. It will link the “Northern Metropolis” with the urban areas to support the long-term and sustainable development of the “Northern Metropolis”. As stated in the Hong Kong Major Transport Infrastructure Development Blueprint, the preliminary commissioning target of the Central Rail Link is in 2039 and beyond. We will continue to review the project's actual alignment and implementation timetable based on land use planning and development schedule of the “Northern Metropolis”, and prepare for the next stage of implementation, including finalising its implementation mode, financial arrangement, etc. Currently, the details of the project are yet to be confirmed.

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