

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 39 – Drainage Services Department

Subhead:

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10 include the construction of the upgrading works of the Shek Wu Hui sewage treatment works, Tai Po sewage treatment works stage 5 extension and Shatin sewage treatment works stage 3 extension. On this, may I ask the Administration:

- (a) Currently, sewage discharged in Hong Kong is treated under a three-level treatment system. Please provide the volume of sewage receiving treatment at each level in 2008;
- (b) How do the above extension works help in improving sewage treatment in Hong Kong? What are the estimates for them?
- (c) Has the Administration ever considered upgrading the level of sewage treatment in Hong Kong to secondary in the long term and upgrading the facilities for such purpose?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

- (a) The quantities of sewage receiving preliminary, primary (including Chemical Enhanced Primary Treatment) and secondary treatment in 2008 are as follows:

Treatment level	Volume of sewage treated (million cubic metre)
Preliminary	289
Primary	532
Secondary	169
Total	990

- (b) The upgrading works will increase the treatment capacity as well as the nutrient and bacteria removal capabilities. Their project estimates are appended below:

Project	Capacity before upgrading (cubic metre/day)	Capacity after upgrading (cubic metre/day)	Project Estimate (\$ million)
Shek Wui Hui sewage treatment works	80 000	93 000	220
Tai Po sewage treatment works stage 5 extension (phases 1 and 2A) ^{Note}	88 000	100 000	520
Shatin sewage treatment works stage 3 extension	150 000	340 000	2,430

Note:

The project “Tai Po sewage treatment works stage 5 extension” is implemented in three phases, namely phase 1, 2A and 2B. Phase 2B will increase the plant capacity to 120 000 cubic metre/day. The latest project estimate is \$680 million, funding of which is subject to the approval of the Finance Committee.

- (c) The Administration takes into account the assimilative capacity and the impacts of discharges on sensitive water receivers, if any, in the specific receiving water bodies in deciding whether it is necessary and appropriate to upgrade certain sewage treatment facilities and the appropriate levels of sewage treatment.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 20 March 2009