Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2015-16

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)232

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4553)

Head: (704) Capital Works Reserve Fund: Drainage

Subhead (No. & title): (4155CD) West Kowloon drainage improvement – Lai Chi Kok

drainage tunnel

<u>Programme</u>: Not Specified

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum Wah, Daniel)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Development

Question:

What are the details, works schedule and expenditure involved for "West Kowloon drainage improvement—Lai Chi Kok drainage tunnel"?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (Member Question No. 95)

Reply:

According to Rule 49 of the Finance Committee Procedures, special meetings of the Finance Committee are convened to examine the annual Estimates of Expenditure prepared by the Government in support of the Appropriation Bill.

Expenditure charged to the Capital Works Reserve Fund do **not** form part of the Appropriation Bill. As such, questions relating to expenditure under the Fund are **not** relevant to the examination of the Estimates of Expenditure or the Appropriation Bill.

"West Kowloon drainage improvement – Lai Chi Kok drainage tunnel" is for the construction of the Lai Chi Kok Drainage Tunnel (LCKDT) with an approved project estimate of \$1,669.1 million. LCKDT comprises a 2.5 km long mid-hill branch tunnel that runs from Tai Wo Ping to Butterfly Valley, and a 1.2 km long main tunnel that extends underneath Lai Chi Kok's urban area to the coast. Both tunnels are of 4.9 m internal diameter. LCKDT is to relieve the flooding risk in Lai Chi Kok, Cheung Sha Wan and Sham Shui Po areas by intercepting stormwater runoff from the uphill catchment through six intakes along the branch tunnel, thereby significantly reducing the volume of stormwater flow entering the urban drainage system downstream. Construction of LCKDT commenced in November 2008 and it was commissioned in October 2012. The estimated expenditure under the project in 2015-16 is \$2 million for payment of the final accounts of the relevant consultancy agreement and works contract.