

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB414

(Question Serial No. 3317)

Head: (704) Capital Works Reserve Fund: Drainage

Subhead (No. & title): (4351DS) Harbour Area Treatment Scheme, stage 2A—planning and design of the upgrading works of Stonecutters Island sewage treatment works and the preliminary treatment works
(4357DS) Sewage interception scheme in Kowloon City

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding Subhead 4351DS “Harbour Area Treatment Scheme, stage 2A—planning and design of the upgrading works of Stonecutters Island sewage treatment works and the preliminary treatment works” and Subhead 4357DS “Sewage interception scheme in Kowloon City”, about \$70 million (about 67% of the approved project estimate) and \$600 million (about 84% of the approved project estimate) have been spent respectively. What are the progress and expected completion dates of the projects? If there are still lots of planning, design and construction yet to be commenced, will the Government increase the provision for 2015-16 for completion of the work as soon as possible to alleviate the sewage treatment problem in the areas? If the cost is expected to overrun, what is the projected amount of cost overrun?

Asked by: Hon TO Kun-sun, James (Member Question No. 85)

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.

Subhead 4351DS is mainly for the planning and design of “Harbour Area Treatment Scheme, stage 2A—the upgrading works of Stonecutters Island sewage treatment works and the preliminary treatment works”. The majority of planning and design work has been completed, with the remaining expected to be completed in 2016. The planning and design cost regarding Subhead 4351DS is within the budget and therefore additional provision is not necessary. Also, the construction works of 4351DS have been carried out under

Subhead 4341DS. The main works have been completed and are under testing and trial operation for expected commissioning in the third quarter of 2015.

For Subhead 4357DS “Sewage interception scheme in Kowloon City”, the construction works were substantially completed in July 2012 as scheduled and already put into operation. As the account finalisation of the works contract is generally completed, the project cost is not expected to overrun.

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