

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(W)063

(Question Serial No. 2905)

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): Not specified

Programme: (1) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (MOK Wing-cheong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Would the Government inform this Committee:

1. of the work progress of the Strategic Planning Study on Flood Management Against Sea Level Rise and Extreme Rainfall;
2. of the specific timetable of drainage improvement works for such districts as Wong Tai Sin and Eastern District where more serious flooding occurred, and whether there are any measures taken to speed up the relevant work; and
3. of the innovative technologies used to enhance the quality and efficiency of drainage works?

Asked by: Hon ZHANG Xinyu, Gary (LegCo internal reference no.: 44)

Reply:

As climate change is an important issue across the globe, Hong Kong must come up with a proactive strategy to tackle such a challenge. In order to further cope with the more frequent extreme weather events in recent years, the Drainage Services Department (DSD) has proactively commenced the Strategic Planning Study on Flood Management Against Sea Level Rise and Extreme Rainfall (Strategic Study) aimed at assessing the impact of climate change on Hong Kong's stormwater drainage systems till the end of the century and formulating new and comprehensive territory-wide flood management strategies.

1. The Strategic Study commenced in 2022. Since then, the Strategic Study has been progressing well, and is expected to be completed in 2024.
2. The DSD plans to seek funding approval this year from the Legislative Council for 7 projects including drainage improvement works in Wong Tai Sin and Eastern District while at the same time inviting tenders so as to shorten the length of time required for project contract procurement, with a view to implementing the works as soon as possible to reduce the flood risk in the districts concerned.

Apart from planning to implement the above-mentioned drainage improvement works, the DSD and other relevant departments are also carrying out a raft of short term improvement works including repair of damaged catchpits, improvements to water

intakes and provision of roadside gullies. It is expected that the works will be completed in phases by the end of March 2024.

3. On maintenance and desilting, the DSD has in recent years actively made use of technologies to increase work efficiency, for example introducing river desilting robots and pipeline inspection robots to assist with maintenance work so as to enhance the efficiency of the drainage system and occupational safety.

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