Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

THB(T)030

Reply Serial No.

Question Serial No.

Head: 42- Electrical and Mechanical

Services Department

Subhead:

1919

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Regarding "promotion, implementation, and review of the voluntary registration scheme for vehicle mechanics", will the Government inform this committee of:

- 1. the details of the plan;
- 2. expenditure involved; and
- 3. whether or not the trade will be consulted? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply:

The voluntary registration scheme for vehicle mechanics aims at enhancing the standard of local vehicle maintenance trade. Vehicle mechanics having the necessary qualification and/or experience may apply to be registered so that their qualification and competence will be recognised. The scheme has been implemented since 2007, and up to February 2011 over 10 000 vehicle mechanics have been registered. In order to further promote the scheme and to encourage the registered vehicle mechanics to renew their registration, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has launched a series of promotion activities, including a radio announcement for public interest, putting up posters in public places and vehicle maintenance workshops, and distributing promotion leaflets to registered vehicle mechanics. EMSD will continue to process applications for new and renewal registration and maintain a list of registered vehicle mechanics for public access. Review on the registration and renewal requirements will also be carried out to ensure that they are up to date.

The total expenditure involved in implementing and promoting the voluntary registration scheme for vehicle mechanics is estimated to be \$1.54 million in 2011-12.

Consultation with the trade is conducted through the Vehicle Maintenance Technical Advisory Committee, which has been established since 2006 to advise the Government on the implementation of the registration scheme for vehicle mechanics. The Committee comprises members from trade associations, workers unions, professional institutions, training institutes, transport operators, vehicle suppliers' associations, vehicle owners' association and relevant government departments.

Signature _	bula
Name in block letters	Chan Hung-Cheung, Stephen
Post Title	Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services
Date	18 March 2011