

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

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services      Subhead:  
Department

Programme : (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

A number of railway extensions will be commissioned for service soon. For the matters on railway safety monitoring, please advise this committee:

- (a) How many civil servants (by grade and rank) in the Railways Branch of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department are responsible for handling railway issues?
- (b) Will the Administration increase resources to handle the uptrend of railway incidents, for instance, increase the establishment of engineers and supporting staff for the Railways Branch? If yes, what is the expenditure? If no, what is the reason?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) In the Railways Branch of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), nine professional grade staff, namely one Government Electrical and Mechanical Engineer, four Senior Engineers and four Engineers/Assistant Engineers, are responsible for performing railway safety regulatory functions.
- (b) EMSD will create two professional grade staff posts with effect from 1 April 2011 to undertake the influx of workload arising from new railway projects, with an annual staff cost of about \$1.55 million in terms of notional annual mid-point salary value.

Signature 

Name in block letters CHAN Hung Cheung, Stephen

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date 18 March 2011