Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

ENB029

Question Serial No.

3469

Head:

42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. &

title):

Programme:

(1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer:

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau;

Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Has Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) carried out review on the current services of dedicated liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations? If yes, please provide details. Will the Government plan to increase the number of dedicated LPG filling stations? What are the details and estimated expenditure?

Asked by:

Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply:

Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has been regularly reviewing various services aspects of the dedicated liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations, including their station management, operation and maintenance, through regular inspections, meetings with the dedicated LPG filling station operators as well as the LPG vehicle trade organizations. According to the findings of these regular review, the operators have generally met their contractual obligations. EMSD will continue to monitor closely their performance.

The current LPG filling network has a total of 62 LPG filling stations, including 12 dedicated stations and 50 non-dedicated stations and are sufficient to meet the filling demand of all taxis and light buses to use LPG vehicles. Thus, the Government does not have plan to set up additional dedicated LPG filling stations. However, to make LPG filling more convenient to drivers, the Government has a standing policy since 2000, to require suitable tendered sites for petrol filling stations to provide LPG filling facilities. We have also identified two potential sites on Hong Kong Island recently which could be made available for setting up petrol-cum-LPG stations subject to the completion of requisite procedures and arrangements. We have also recommended the strengthening of the existing policy by stipulating in the tender conditions of petrol-cum-LPG filling stations, both in respect of existing petrol filling stations that do not have LPG filling facilities and existing petrol-cum-LPG filling stations upon expiry of their current land leases, a minimum requirement for LPG filling facilities at 25% of the nozzles, subject to fulfillment of the necessary safety requirements.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

CHAN Fan

Post Title:

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date:

24 February 2012

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