

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

Reply Serial No.

THB(T)199

Question Serial No.

4278

Head: 42 - Electrical and Mechanical Subhead (No. & title):
Services Department

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Would the Administration advise this committee on the followings with regard to railway safety:

- (a) with progressive increase in the number of railway lines, the expenditure for regulating railway safety in 2012-13;
- (b) areas that the relevant expenditure cover;
- (c) the number of civil servants (by grade and post) in the Railways Branch (RB); and if the establishment of civil servants will be increased in the year of 2013-14; and
- (d) the number of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff (by rank and post) and the related expenditure in the RB?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

- (a) The expenditure for regulating railway safety of the existing railway lines in the RB of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) in 2012-13 is \$9.842 million.
(For Internal Reference Only : The expenditure is the total staff cost of 11 nos. of RB staff as stated in Sections (b) and (c) below)
- (b) The expenditure covers the staff cost in the RB pertaining to safety regulation of the existing railway lines.
- (c) In the RB, there are ten professional and one technical grade staff, namely one Government Electrical and Mechanical Engineer, four Senior Engineers, five

Engineers/Assistant Engineers and one Mechanical Inspector. They are responsible for performing railway safety regulatory functions of the existing railway lines.

The EMSD will create two additional professional grade staff posts in 2013-14 to monitor and assess the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link project. The corresponding annual staff cost for these posts is \$1.745 million in terms of notional annual mid-point salary value.

(For Internal Reference Only : 1 Senior Engineer and 1 Engineer/Assistant Engineer will be created in 2013-14 to handle the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link project. Their job duties include the vetting of technical proposals, assessment of safety design, witnessing testing and commissioning, and overseeing the safe operation of XRL after the line is put into service.)

- (d) There is no NCSC staff in the RB regulating railway safety.

Name in block letters:	CHAN FAN
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