

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)125

(Question Serial No. 3270)

Head: (91) Lands Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Land Administration
Controlling Officer: Director of Lands (Ms Bernadette LINN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

It is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2016-17 that the Government will continue to oversee the implementation of the Pilot Scheme for Arbitration on Land Premium (the Pilot Scheme).

Will the Government inform this Committee of the numbers of applications received, approved and rejected since the implementation of the Pilot Scheme in 2015, and the amounts involved and the estimated number of flats to be built or gross floor area to be provided?

Asked by: Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong (Member Question No. 52)

Reply:

The Pilot Scheme for Arbitration on Land Premium (Pilot Scheme) was launched in October 2014. Up to the end of February 2016, the Lands Department (Lands D) had made a total of 14 invitations to lot owners to settle premium discussions through arbitration under the Pilot Scheme in respect of their lease modification/land exchange applications. Among the 14 invitations, one case had proceeded to arbitration and was concluded in December 2015, while the arbitration option for another case is being actively considered by the Government and the applicant. The lot owners in respect of the remaining 12 invitations have chosen to continue to negotiate the premium with Lands D.

Separately, Lands D has declined one application for arbitration which did not meet the policy objective of increasing land supply.

The concluded arbitration case concerns a land exchange for converting agricultural land to land for non-industrial use with a maximum gross floor area of 1 993 square metres. The premium determined through arbitration and paid for this land exchange is \$39.26 million.

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