

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(PL)366**

**(Question Serial No. 5820)**

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:

In its reply to the Legislative Council on 16 November 2016, the Development Bureau (DEVB) pointed out that for land under multiple ownership but owners not unanimously agreeing on or having difficulties in unanimously agreeing on the arrangement for lease extension, the issue will be dealt with through the establishment of Financial Secretary Incorporated.

1. How much manpower on the establishment will be deployed in the coming financial year for dealing with the arrangement for lease extension of the land ownership issue mentioned above?
2. As there is a need to renew a large number of land leases expiring on 30 June 2047, DEVB has stated that it "is making reference to its past experience in legislation...actively compiling the relevant information". Could the Department give examples of the work being carried out on the subject? When will the compilation of the relevant information be completed?

Asked by: Hon YIU Chung-yim (Member Question No. 16)

Reply:

1. Three land leases will expire in the 2017-18 financial year. They are all special purpose leases, including two involving sites for petrol filling stations which, under current policy, are due for re-tendering in the open market upon expiry of the existing leases. The remaining special purpose lease expiring is one involving single ownership, meaning that the lease extension will not require arrangements involving the Financial Secretary Incorporated. The Lands Department (Lands D) will handle the three cases with existing manpower.

2. Making reference to past experiences in handling lease extensions, Lands D is preparing reference materials on the procedures and considerations in the processing of lease extension. The work is expected to be completed in mid-2017.

As regards the preparatory work for dealing with lease extensions in future, please refer to the reply given by the Secretary for Development to Question Number 12 raised at the Legislative Council sitting on 29 March 2017.

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