

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)349

(Question Serial No. 3558)

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

Question:

With regard to assessing ex-gratia payments to primary producers in the agriculture and fisheries industries arising from development projects, please inform this Committee:

- (a) What was the total amount of ex-gratia payments disbursed to primary producers in the agriculture and fisheries industries arising from various development projects in each of the past three years (2016-17 to 2018-19)? What were the respective numbers of applications? Please list the figures with a breakdown by development project.
- (b) What are the respective numbers of applications for ex-gratia allowance under and pending processing? Please advise when the processing of all applications is expected to be completed and payments to be disbursed.
- (c) What were the number of applications for ex-gratia allowance processed and total amount of ex-gratia payments disbursed by the Government in each of the past three years (2016-17 to 2018-19)?
- (d) What are the respective numbers of applications for ex-gratia allowance under and pending processing? Please advise when the processing of all applications is expected to be completed and payments to be disbursed.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 77)

Reply:

- (a) & (c) The total amount of ex-gratia payments disbursed to farmers, fishermen and mariculturists affected by different nature of projects and the number of applications involved in the past three financial years are tabulated below-

Ex-gratia payments disbursed to farmers, fishermen and mariculturists:

Nature of Projects	2016-17 (\$ million) (about) [Number of Applications involved]	2017-18 (\$ million) (about) [Number of Applications involved]	2018-19 (up to end of February 2019) (\$ million) (about) [Number of Applications involved]
Sewerage Works	0.01 [2]	0.32 [10]	0 [0]
Road Works	0.67 [11]	0.7 [29]	0.28 [15]
Land Supply	0.46 [11]	1.37 [8]	0.33 [14]
Railways	1.20 [4]	0 [0]	0 [0]
Marine Works	24.13 [1 291]	0 [0]	88.11 [668]
Other Public Works	0.11 [1]	0 [0]	0 [0]
Total	26.58 [1 320]	2.39 [47]	88.72 [697]

- (b) & (d) For ex-gratia payments to farmers, fishermen and mariculturists, there were about 86 applications being processed as at end February 2019. It is expected that the processing of all these applications would be completed with payment disbursed on a progressive basis in 2019.

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