

Hon Mrs Selina CHOW to ask on 01/12/04:(Translation)

It is learnt that the Environmental Protection Department tentatively confirmed in 2000 that 29 out of the 655 "noisy roads" in Hong Kong, including the Tsing Tsuen Bridge in Kwai Tsing District, would be the first batch of roads to be retrofitted with noise shielding facilities. In the same year, the Executive Council endorsed the retrofitting of noise shielding facilities on these roads at a cost of \$2.3 billion spreading over a 10-year period. According to the information paper provided by the Government for the joint meeting of the Environmental Affairs Panel, the Transport Panel and the Planning, Lands and Works Panel of this Council on 15 January 2002, the Government planned to commence works on retrofitting the Tsing Tsuen Bridge with noise barriers in April 2002, and the project was expected to be completed in December 2007. However, the Progress Report on the Works Programme in Kwai Tsing District as at the end of June this year indicated that the Government was reviewing the commencement and completion dates of the project. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council of the reasons for not yet carrying out the project and its latest progress?

Public Officer to reply : **Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works**