

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): Not specified

Programme: (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (POON Kwok-ying)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and Ecology

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 85 of the Budget Speech that a pilot scheme would be launched at the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Headquarters to explore photovoltaic technology applications on the facades of the government buildings. According to reports, foreign and mainland companies introduced thin-film solar photovoltaic glass panels (PV glass panels) years ago for application on the exterior of buildings, and local companies have also developed coloured PV glass panels. Would the Government advise on the following:

- 1) Is there any assessment on the annual electricity generation and economic benefits of the pilot scheme? And what are the annual economic benefits of the renewable energy generated if the scheme is implemented in all government buildings in Hong Kong?
- 2) Has the Government compared the construction and maintenance costs of PV glass panels with those of traditional glass curtain walls?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hok-fung (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

The Government will launch the Pilot Scheme on Building-Integrated Photovoltaics (BIPV) (Pilot Scheme) at the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Headquarters to explore photovoltaic technology applications on the facades of buildings as well as the supply of renewable energy to buildings. The objective is to assess the effectiveness and feasibility of BIPV from various aspects having regard to the relevant data collected from the Pilot Scheme, such as the actual power generation efficiency, performance in reducing indoor energy consumption, repair and maintenance requirements and expenditures, as well as the construction and maintenance costs of thin-film photovoltaic glass panels and those of traditional glass for application on the facades of buildings, etc., so as to evaluate whether to extend the Pilot Scheme to other public and private organisations in the future. The project is currently under planning. We will announce the details in due course.