

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

THB(T)077

Question Serial No.

0561

Head : 100 Marine Department Subhead :

Programme : (3) Local Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Marine

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Transport and Housing

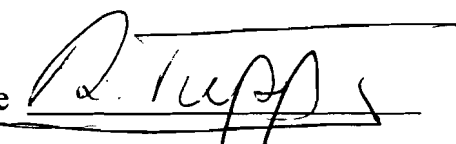
Question :

The cargo throughput of the Public Cargo Working Areas (PCWAs) decreased by over 10% in 2007 compared with 2006. What are the reasons for this? Has the Administration assessed the impact of such a decrease on the operators in PCWAs? If yes, what is the outcome of the assessment? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

Cargo throughput at PCWAs fluctuates from time to time. For instance, a decrease of 12% in 2002 and an increase of 9.3% in 2003 were recorded. The decrease in cargo throughput of the PCWAs in 2007 could be attributed to economic cycles, changes in operational efficiency and competition among different modes of transport or cargo handling facilities in Hong Kong and the region. The Department has not assessed the impact of annual changes in throughput on the operators. Rather we monitor the longer term trend performance of PCWAs from time to time.

Signature 

Name in block letters ROGER TUPPER

Post Title Director of Marine

Date 20 March 2008