

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

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Question Serial No.

2438

Head: 76 Inland Revenue Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Collection

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Inland Revenue

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Question:

In the previous year (i.e. 2008-09), what was the take-up rate of using electronic services for tax payment? Did the figure reflect any increasing trend?

At present, how many people are using eTAX services? Does the figure reflect any increasing trend?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply:

In 2008-09 (up to 28 February 2009), around 1 224 000 payments for earnings and profits tax (or 56% of total) were made by electronic means. The percentage of e-payment to total payment increased from 50% in 2002-03 to 56% in 2007-08 and 2008-09 (up to 28 February 2009).

The Inland Revenue Department (IRD) introduced eTAX in January 2008 to provide a wide range of personalised e-services for individual taxpayers. Up to 28 February 2009, the number of registered users of eTAX is about 220 000. Over 90% of the users filed their tax returns electronically through their eTAX Accounts, representing an increase of 40% over the same period of the previous year. IRD will continue to enhance and promote eTAX services in 2009-10.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs LAU MAK YEE MING, ALICE

Post Title Commissioner of Inland Revenue

Date 13 March 2009