

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

Reply Serial No.

FSTB(Tsy)099

Question Serial No.

1798

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:

- (a) Please provide the number of electronic payments for each type of tax last year (i.e. 2011-12).
- (b) Please show in the form of a table the increase/decrease in the numbers of people using electronic tax payment services for different tax types in the past 2 years.
- (c) Are there any promotion plans for electronic tax payments? What are the details? What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah Ronny

Reply:

- (a) In the 2011-12 financial year (as at 31 January 2012), there were around 1 380 000 electronic payments for "earnings and profits tax", representing 57% of the total tax payments for the year. The Inland Revenue Department (IRD) does not have statistical breakdown on the numbers of electronic payments by tax types.
- (b) IRD does not have statistics on the number of persons paying tax by electronic means. Comparing with the same period in the 2010-11 financial year (as at 31 January 2011), there was an increase of 83 000 electronic tax payments in the 2011-12 financial year, representing an increase of about 6%.
- (c) To promote electronic tax payment services, IRD will continue to post notices in Chinese and English newspapers in December 2012 and March 2013 (i.e. before the normal due dates for salaries tax demand notes) to remind taxpayers to pay tax on time and encourage them to pay tax by electronic means. The estimated expenditure for this exercise is about \$200,000. IRD will also disseminate relevant information on its website to promote electronic tax payment services.

Signature: _____

Name in block letters: CHU Yam-yuen

Post Title: Commissioner of Inland Revenue

Date: 29.2.2012