Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

FSTB(Tsy)103

Ouestion Serial No.

0808

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

Programme: (1) Assessing Functions

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Commissioner of Inland Revenue

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury

Question:

In respect of chargeable stamp duty, among the cases concerning sale and purchase of property processed by the Administration last year, how many of them involved collection of "Special Stamp Duty" and what was the amount of duty involved? Has the Inland Revenue Department increased its manpower and expenditure in order to cope with the work of collecting the Special Stamp Duty? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

Among the stamp duty cases involving sale and purchase of residential properties processed by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) in the 2011-12 financial year (as at 31 January 2012), 98 cases involved collection of Special Stamp Duty (SSD) and the total amount of SSD collected was \$29.62 million. All along, IRD allocates resources according to service needs and work priorities in order to carry out its various responsibilities. Similarly, IRD has handled the work of collecting SSD through staff redeployment. Hence, there is no need for IRD to increase its manpower and expenditure for this purpose.

Signature:	
Name in block letters:	CHU Yam-yuen
Post Title:	Commissioner of Inland Revenue
Date:	29.2.2012