

# \$15b set aside for airport terminal

By FANNY WONG

TERMINAL facilities measuring up to world standards will be built at the new Chek Lap Kok airport at an estimated cost of \$15 billion, according to the Government's latest projections.

Spending of \$7 billion is also expected on airport-related facilities which do not exist on north Lantau, such as water supply as well as electrical and mechanical installations.

Although officials are still working on details of the planning and design of the airport, initial projections indicated that of the \$15 billion terminal facilities, government installations would cost only about \$500 million.

Pending a final decision on the proportion of private sector participation in the \$38 billion airport project, the Government anticipates that scope for privatisation includes the cargo terminal, aircraft maintenance and catering.

The Architectural Services Department is responsible for advising government-commissioned consultants on the operational requirements of various departments and related facilities in the new terminal.

Apart from the terminal facilities, other new installations would have to be in place to pave the way for the opening of the airport in 1997.

Essential installations, such as a temporary and permanent water supply system, will have to be built to cope with the need for the construction and the future operation of the airport.

The temporary water supply is planned to be ready by 1992 while a permanent one would be ready by July 1995.

To ensure adequate supply of water to north Lantau, improvements would also be required for the existing water treatment plant at Silvermine Bay.

All of these projects, to be started within the next four years, are estimated to cost at least \$2 billion.

Electrical, mechanical, electronic and building services facilities required by the new airport alone would cost an extra \$5 billion.

The installations would be undertaken by a multidisciplinary team formed by professional and technical staff in the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department.

The team would monitor and approve all engineering design submissions.