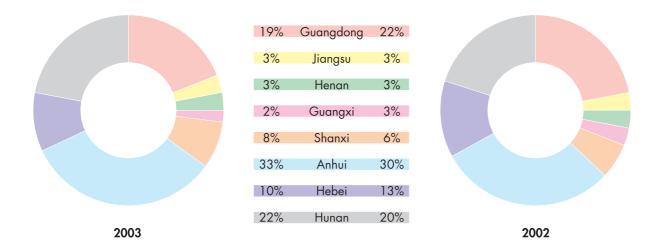
(A) Financial Results

Summary of Consolidated Income Statement

| HK\$ million | 2003 | 2002 | % changes |
|---|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Turnover: Group and share of | | | |
| infrastructure joint ventures | | | |
| Toll revenue | 815 | 748 | +9% |
| Minimum income undertakings | 14 | 45 | -69% |
| Sales of goods | 93 | 80 | +16% |
| | 922 | 873 | +6% |
| Less: Share of infrastructure joint | | | |
| ventures' toll revenue | (803) | (709) | +13% |
| Turnover: Group | 119 | 164 | -27% |
| Net income recognised in respect | | | |
| of goodwill and negative goodwill | 7 | 21 | -67% |
| Other operating income | 19 | 20 | -5% |
| Cost of inventories sold | (63) | (72) | -13% |
| Allowance for doubtful receivables | - | (25) | N/A |
| Operating expenses | (83) | (95) | -13% |
| Share of operating profit of joint ventures | 433 | 417 | +4% |
| Operating profit: Group and share | | | |
| of joint ventures | 432 | 430 | _ |
| Finance costs | (66) | (81) | -19% |
| Profit before taxation | 366 | 349 | +5% |
| Taxation | (42) | (30) | +40% |
| Minority interests | (6) | (6) | - |
| | | | 00/ |
| Profit for the year | 318 | 313 | +2% |
| Weighted average number | | | |
| of issued shares | 551,738,081 | 513,769,004 | +7% |
| Basic earnings per share | HK\$0.55 | HK\$0.55 | _ |
| Dividend per share in respect | | | |
| of current year | HK25 cents | HK24 cents | +4% |
| HK\$ million | | | |
| Dividend in respect of current year | | | |
| Interim dividend | 86 | 82 | +5% |
| Proposed final dividend | 59 | 41 | +44% |
| Dividend on convertible preference shares | 14 | 33 | -58% |
| | • • | | |

Profit Contribution by Geographic Region



Group's share of toll revenue

The Group's share of toll revenue increased by 9% mainly attributable to the increase in total traffic. Excluding the effect of the disposed Zhongshan Qijiang Highway project in 2003, the Group's share of toll revenue had increased by 13% as compared to 2002.

Minimum income undertakings

The decrease of minimum income undertakings was mainly due to the fact that some of the Group's projects had already reached the stage to recover their original investment amounts and, therefore, the provision of minimum income undertakings for some projects had been expired.

Sales of goods

The amount mainly represented sales of goods from the North American ginseng business.

Net income recognised in respect of goodwill and negative goodwill

The amount mainly represented the amortisation of negative goodwill arising from the acquisition of Chai-Na-Ta Corp. The negative goodwill is being recognised as income over three years which is the remaining weighted average useful life of the acquired non-monetary assets.

Other operating income

Other operating income mainly consisted of interest income.

Operating expenses

A saving of operating expenses was mainly attributable to cost savings following disposal of a toll road subsidiary during the year.

Share of joint ventures' operating profit increased by 4% mainly attributable to the increase of total traffic.

Finance costs

Finance costs mainly represented interest expense of guaranteed notes and other bank loans less interest income on repurchased portion and other finance costs in association with the financing exercise during the year. The decrease in finance costs was mainly attributable to early repayment of the Group's existing borrowings.

Taxation

Taxation mainly represented share of PRC income tax attributable to the PRC infrastructure joint ventures. Deferred tax is provided mainly on temporary differences between the carrying amounts and the corresponding tax bases of the Group's toll road operation rights in PRC and the ginseng crops of an overseas subsidiary using applicable tax rates of different jurisdictions.

(B) Cash Flow

Summary of Consolidated Cash Flow Statement

| HK\$ million | 2003 | 2002 | Changes |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Net cash from operating activities Net cash (used in) from investing activities Net cash used in financing activities | 50 (347) (248) | 66 371 (300) | (16) (718) 52 |
| (Decrease) increase in cash and bank balances | (545) | 137 | (682) |

Net cash from operating activities was mainly attributable to decrease of debtors, deposits and prepayments by HK\$72 million and decrease of inventories and ginseng crops by HK\$13 million but offset by the decrease of creditors and accrued charges by HK\$17 million in the current year.

Net cash (used in) from investing activities mainly comprised repayment of shareholder loans from joint ventures of HK\$490 million (last year : HK\$296 million), dividends received from joint ventures of HK\$129 million (last year: HK\$153 million), proceeds from disposal of investment in securities of HK\$83 million (last year: HK\$51 million), net proceeds on disposal of interests in subsidiaries of HK\$56 million (last year: HK\$5 million), and offset by loans to joint ventures of HK\$803 million (last year: HK\$39 million) and additional investment in joint ventures of HK\$360 million (last year: HK\$35 million).

Net cash used in financing activities principally consisted of dividend payment of HK\$142 million (last year: HK\$160 million), repayment of transferable loan certificate facility of HK\$488 million (last year: HK\$98 million), interest payment of HK\$58 million (last year: HK\$72 million), new loan raised of HK\$361 million (last year: HK\$33 million) and new shares issue of HK\$79 million (last year: nil).

Capital Commitments

As at 31 December 2003, the Group's outstanding capital commitments in respect of toll road and other projects were as follows:

| | HK\$ million |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Within one year | 3 |
| After the fifth year | 34 |
| | 37 |

The commitments will be funded by the Group's working capital.

Contingent Liabilities

As at 31 December 2003, the Group had no contingent liabilities.

(C) Financial Position

Summary of Consolidated Balance Sheet

| HK\$ million | 2003 | 2002 | Changes |
|--|-------|-------|---------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 46 | 52 | -6 |
| Interests in infrastructure joint ventures | 4,891 | 3,962 | +929 |
| Other non-current assets | (17) | 254 | -271 |
| Current assets | 908 | 1,458 | -550 |
| | | | |
| Total assets | 5,828 | 5,726 | +102 |
| LIABILITIES | | | |
| Current liabilities | 98 | 253 | -155 |
| Non-current liabilities | 974 | 951 | +23 |
| Minority interests | 41 | 82 | -41 |
| Total liabilities | 1,113 | 1,286 | -173 |
| CAPITAL | | | |
| Shareholders' funds | 4,715 | 4,440 | +275 |

Property, plant and equipment mainly comprised the fixed assets of Chai-Na-Ta Corp.

Interests in infrastructure joint ventures increased to HK\$4,891 million mainly due to the additional investment in a toll road project during the year.

Other non-current assets mainly comprised negative goodwill and debtors due after one year.

Current assets mainly comprised bank balances and cash, charged deposits, receivables, inventories and ginseng crops. As at 31 December 2003, bank balances, cash and charged deposits aggregated to HK\$488 million (last year: HK\$1,088 million).

Current liabilities mainly comprised HK\$54 million of the short-term portion of the secured loans (last year: HK\$196 million) and HK\$26 million (last year: HK\$26 million) of interest payables.

Non-current liabilities comprised the long term portion of the Group's bank loans and guaranteed notes of HK\$961 million (last year: HK\$945 million).

The increase in **shareholders' funds** was attributable to the change of retained profit and new issue of ordinary shares during the year.

Capital Structure

| HK\$ million | 2003 | 2002 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Shareholders' funds Secured loans | 4,715 1,015 | 4,440 1,141 |
| Total capital employed | 5,730 | 5,581 |
| Gearing ratio | 22% | 26% |

The reduction of the Group's gearing ratio from 26% to 22% was mainly attributable to the repayment of the transferable loan certificate facility of HK\$488 million. Following the investment in a toll highway project, bank balances had decreased to HK\$432 million (last year: HK\$974 million). The Group's net gearing ratio had then increased to 11% (last year: 1%).

Interest Coverage

| HK\$ million | 2003 | 2002 |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Earnings before interest, taxation, depreciation | | |
| and amortisation ("EBITDA") | 571 | 552 |
| Finance costs | 66 | 81 |
| | | |
| Interest coverage | 8.7 times | 6.8 times |