Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(PL)054

Question Serial No.

1042

Head : 82 Buildings Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme: Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question :

It is estimated that the number of removal orders to be issued against unauthorised building works in existing buildings is 28 000 in 2008, which is nearly 15% less than the 32 000 plus orders issued in both 2006 and 2007. The number of unauthorised structures to be removed and irregularities to be rectified is also less than before. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

For the two areas of work in question, the actual performance and the estimates for 2006 and 2007 as well as the estimate for 2008, as indicated in the Controlling Officer's Report, are as follows:

	Indicators	Actual		Estimate		
		2006	2007	2006	2007	2008
(1)	Removal orders issued	32 711	32 898	25 000	25 000	28 000
(2)	Unauthorised structures removed and irregularities rectified	48 479	51 312	40 000	40 000	40 000

The estimates for the two indicators in question are the same for 2006 and 2007. When considering the corresponding estimates for 2008, we have taken into account the actual performance and experience in both 2006 and 2007. The statistical figures for performance depend on a number of varying factors, including the number of unauthorised structures existing in the buildings targeted for enforcement action as well as the readiness of and the time taken by building owners to comply with the statutory orders.

Signature _____

Name in block letters CHEUNG Hau-wai

Post Title Director of Buildings

Date 19 March 2008