

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10

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

**Reply Serial No.**

**DEVB(PL)078**

Question Serial No.

0964

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

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10", it is said that the Government will continue to develop a "performance-based fire code to facilitate modern fire safety design of buildings". In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee the criteria for "modern fire safety design"? Have the criteria been announced yet? If yes, please provide the details; if not, the date of announcement.

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

The Buildings Department has commissioned a consultancy study to review the prescriptive requirements stipulated in the current codes of practice relating to fire safety and to formulate a set of performance requirements and guidelines for modern fire safety design adopting the "fire engineering" approach.

The consultancy study is on-going and a draft performance-based code of practice for building fire safety is being prepared. We estimate that the draft code will be completed in late 2009 for consultation with and trial use by the building industry before the new code is finalised for implementation.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

AU Choi-kai

Director of Buildings

17 March 2009