

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

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

DEVB(PL)092

Question Serial No.

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

2959

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding the buildings targeted for clearance of unauthorised building works, how many of them have not yet been dealt with? What is the estimated time of completion of the scheme concerned?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

From 2001 onward, the Buildings Department (BD) launched annually large-scale clearance operations under a ten-year enforcement programme to clear in one go unauthorised building works (UBWs) on external walls and in common areas of selected target buildings. The annual target is to identify around 1 000 target buildings for clearance of such UBWs. From 2001 to 2009, 11 828 target buildings had been selected for the operations. The BD, to date, has removed around 380 000 UBWs, which has already exceeded its target of demolishing around 40 000 UBWs a year. We anticipate that by the end of the ten-year enforcement programme in end of March next year, the BD would have removed more than 400 000 UBWs. We believe that most of the UBWs to be cleared under the established enforcement policy would have been removed by that time. To clear the remaining UBWs and sustain the momentum and promotion of awareness of the need to remove UBWs, the BD in 2010 will select another 200 target buildings for clearance of UBWs.

Signature _____

Name in block letters AU Choi-kai

Post Title Director of Buildings

Date 19 March 2010