

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

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

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(PL)104

Question Serial No.

1181

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

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

In 2008 and 2009, over 30 000 removal orders were issued each year. Why is the estimated number of orders to be issued in 2010 substantially reduced by half to 15 000? What are the criteria used by the Department in estimating the number of removal orders to be issued?

Asked by : Hon. NG Margaret

Reply :

We estimate that the number of removal orders to be issued in 2010 would be reduced because the Department has launched a 10-year programme to demolish unauthorised building works (UBWs) since 2001 and about 380 000 UBWs have been demolished thus far. Moreover, many buildings have joined Operation Building Bright under which UBWs may also be demolished voluntarily in addition to the repair and maintenance works. As a result, the number of UBWs removal orders that need to be issued will be drastically reduced.

Signature _____

Name in block letters AU Choi-kai

Post Title Director of Buildings

Date 19 March 2010