

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

DEVB(PL)076

Question Serial No.

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

1045

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

In 2009-10 and 2010-11, what was the number of sub-divided flats with irregularities found when the Buildings Department inspected such flats in the targeted buildings? In this regard, what is the estimated expenditure in 2011-12?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply :

In 2009 and 2010, the Buildings Department (BD) received 764 and 2 059 reports respectively on suspected unauthorised building works associated with sub-divided flats and follow-up actions had been taken accordingly. From 1 April 2011 onwards, the BD will launch a special operation to inspect 150 target buildings each year to tackle potential irregularities of building works associated with sub-divided flats, in addition to attending to individual reports and complaints on sub-divided flats. It is estimated that 1 320 sub-divided flats will be inspected each year in the special operation and 100 of them will require rectification of irregularities.

The existing resources of 477 professional and technical staff of the Existing Buildings Divisions of the BD together with the additional resources of 124 additional professional and technical staff proposed for allocation to the Department in 2011-12 will be responsible for carrying out the aforementioned operation. As the special operation to inspect sub-divided flats is part of the Existing Buildings Divisions' overall duties to implement the Department's building safety and maintenance enforcement programme, it is not possible to provide a breakdown of the manpower solely for handling the special operation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters AU Choi-kai

Post Title Director of Buildings

Date 16.3.2011