

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12

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

Reply Serial No.

**DEVB(PL)081**

Question Serial No.

3593

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

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

- (a) In 2010-11, what was the amount of resources allocated by the Buildings Department (BD) for inspection of unauthorised internal alteration works in buildings ? What were the details ?
- (b) In 2011-12, what is the amount of resources to be allocated by the BD for inspection of unauthorised internal alteration works in buildings ? What are the details and the estimated expenditure involved ?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

- (a) In 2010-11, reports on unauthorised internal alterations works were handled by the 477 professional and technical staff of the Existing Buildings Divisions of the Buildings Department (BD) as part of the overall duties of the Divisions to implement the Department's building safety and maintenance enforcement programme. It is not possible to provide a breakdown of expenditure solely for handling reports on unauthorised internal alteration works.
- (b) 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 concerning such cases. It is estimated that 1 320 sub-divided flats will be inspected in the special operation annually and irregularities in 100 of such flats will require rectification each year. The existing resources of 477 professional and technical staff of the Existing Buildings Divisions of the BD together with the additional resources of 124 professional and technical staff proposed for allocation to the Department in 2011-12 will be used 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 an estimated expenditure solely for handling the special operation.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters     AU Choi-kai    

Post Title     Director of Buildings    

Date     17.3.2011