

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

DEVB(PL)086

Question Serial No.

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

1818

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The Government indicates that a new large-scale operation on inspection of sub-divided flats in target buildings and rectification of irregularities of building works associated with the sub-divided flats will be initiated in 2011-12. Will the Government inform this Committee of the expenditure to be involved and the possible number of occupants to be affected in the aforesaid programme? What measures will be taken to rehouse the occupants who will lose their homes as a result of the aforesaid programme?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

From 1 April 2011 onwards, the Buildings Department (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. 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 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 a breakdown of the manpower solely for handling the special operation.

The BD will collaborate with the relevant government departments, including the Housing Department, Home Affairs Department and Social Welfare Department as necessary, to render suitable assistance to the owners and occupants involved in accordance with prevailing policies.

Signature _____

Name in block letters AU Choi-kai

Post Title Director of Buildings

Date 17.3.2011