Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(PL)097

Question Serial No.

<u>Head</u>: 82 Buildings Department <u>Subhead</u> (No. & title):

0041

Programme: Buildings and Building Works

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Buildings

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Development

Question:

Regarding the new indicators for "sub-divided flats", how much manpower is estimated to be involved and what is the service pledge for the cases in this category? Will the existing establishment be able to cope with the possible increase in the number of these cases?

Asked by: Hon. IP LAU Suk-yee, Regina

Reply:

From 1 April 2011 onwards, the Buildings Department (BD) will launch a special operation to inspect 150 target buildings each year to tackle 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 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