

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

**DEVB(PL)128**

Question Serial No.

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

2536

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The Administration stated that, in 2010, a one-off special operation from August 2010 to March 2011 with a plan to identify 1 000 to 2 000 abandoned/dangerous signboards over the territory for enforcement action was launched in addition to the original plan of removing/repairing 3 000 signboards. For each of these two operations, what was the manpower required and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The work in connection with the removal of 3 000 abandoned/dangerous signboards in 2010 was handled by the existing resources of 477 professional and technical staff of the Existing Buildings Divisions of the Buildings Department (BD) as part of the 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 and expenditure solely for handling abandoned/dangerous signboards.

To implement the one-off special operation from August 2010 to March 2011 to identify abandoned/dangerous signboards for enforcement action, the BD has engaged private sector consultants to carry out surveys in the territory to identify such signboards and assist the Department to take subsequent enforcement actions. The BD has earmarked about \$1 million to cover the estimated consultancy fee. The existing staff of the Existing Buildings Divisions have been monitoring the outsourced consultants' work and taking subsequent enforcement action as part of the Divisions' overall duties to implement the Department's building safety and maintenance enforcement programme.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters    AU Choi-kai

Post Title    Director of Buildings

Date    16.3.2011