Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2012-13

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(PL)072

Question Serial No.

0339

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

<u>Programme</u>: Buildings and Building Works

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

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

Question:

In 2011, 2 264 prosecutions were instigated against failure to comply with removal orders on unauthorised building works. What was the expenditure involved in these prosecutions? What was the number of cases achieving compliance with removal orders and successful prosecution respectively?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply:

In 2011, 2 264 prosecutions were instigated against failure to comply with removal orders on unauthorised building works. The work associated with the instigation of prosecutions was mainly handled by the existing resources of 56 professional, technical and clerical staff of the Legal Services Section of the Buildings Department (BD) as part of their overall duties in dealing with all prosecutions and disciplinary proceedings arising from the enforcement work of the Department. Staff of frontline enforcement teams of the BD were also involved in compiling documentary evidence and attending court hearings as prosecution witnesses. We are not able to provide a breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved solely for handling the prosecutions.

In 2011, the number of removal orders complied with was 10 252 and the number of convicted cases for failure to comply with removal orders was 1 794.

	Signature _	
AU Choi-kai	Name in block letters	
Director of Buildings	Post Title	
27.2.2012	Date	