

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

**DEVB(PL)129**

Question Serial No.

2208

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

Programme: Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

The provision for 2012–13 is 23.4% higher than the revised estimate for 2011–12, which is mainly due to the enhanced enforcement relating to building safety and the creation of 59 posts. Will the Government advise on the following:

- (a) What are the ranks, scope of work and mode of employment of the 59 additional posts?
- (b) In the establishment of the Buildings Department in 2012-13, what is the respective number and ratio of staff employed under each of the different modes of employment?
- (c) On the basis of classification by project, list out the estimated expenditure and manpower involved for the implementation of each of the enhanced enforcement operations relating to building safety in 2012-13.

Asked by: Hon. PAN Pey-chyou

Reply:

- (a) The 59 new posts to be created in the Buildings Department (BD) in 2012-13 are civil service posts. They include one directorate post (D1), 26 professional posts (four Senior Building Surveyor / Senior Structural Engineer and 22 Building Surveyor / Structural Engineer posts), 24 technical posts (four Senior Survey Officer (Building) / Senior Technical Officer (Structural) and 20 Survey Officer (Building) / Technical Officer (Structural) posts), as well as eight general grade posts (four Analyst / Programmer posts and four Clerical Officer grade posts). Among these new posts, 41 will be allocated for setting up a dedicated section for enhancing enforcement action against unauthorised building works (UBWs) in New Territories Exempted Houses (NTEHs), 13 for carrying out and providing support to the large scale operation against irregularities of building works associated with sub-divided flats, and five for providing general administrative support.

- (b) The civil service establishment of the BD will be 1 232 posts in 2012-13. As the number of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff varies with changing service needs of the BD, we are not able to provide the number and ratio of NCSC staff for 2012-13.
- (c) As mentioned in our reply to part (a) of the question, 41 new civil service posts will be created in 2012-13 for setting up a dedicated section for enhancing enforcement action against UBWs in NTEHs. As for the BD's other enforcement duties, they will be carried out using the existing resources for 488 professional and technical staff of the two Existing Buildings Divisions and the Mandatory Building Inspection Division of the BD, together with the additional resources for 12 professional and technical staff proposed to be allocated to these Divisions in 2012-13. The estimated expenditure, which covers staff costs as well as other departmental expenditures, is \$255.5 million per year. We are not able to provide a breakdown of the expenditure required for each of the operations.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ AU Choi-kai

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of Buildings

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 29.2.2012