

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

Head: 82 Buildings Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

It is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention that the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme (MBIS) and the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme (MWIS) will be fully implemented. Will the Government advise on the following:

- (a) For the implementation of these two Schemes, what is the estimated total number of departmental staff dedicated for the inspection of the 7 800 buildings?
- (b) Have all the staff concerned been employed and trained so that inspection can be commenced from the second quarter of 2012?
- (c) What is the expenditure involved for these two Schemes in 2012-13?

Asked by: Hon. PAN Pey-chyou

Reply:

The Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme (MBIS) and the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme (MWIS) are planned for full implementation in the second quarter of 2012. A total of 2 000 buildings aged 30 years or above and 5 800 buildings aged 10 years or above will be selected for the MBIS and the MWIS respectively each year. To minimise disturbance to building owners, we will synchronise the implementation of the MBIS and the MWIS as far as practicable, whereby buildings selected for the MBIS will also be selected for the MWIS under the same cycle so that owners can carry out inspection and repair works under both schemes concurrently. Therefore, the total number of buildings selected for the MBIS and MWIS in a year will be around 5 800 (i.e. the 2 000 buildings under MBIS will be included in the 5 800 buildings under MWIS), instead of 7 800.

The work arising from the MBIS and the MWIS will be handled by the existing resources for 488 professional and technical staff of the two Existing Buildings Divisions and the Mandatory Building Inspection Division of the Buildings Department (BD) as part of the Divisions' overall duties to implement the Department's building safety and maintenance enforcement programme. We are not able to provide a breakdown of the manpower and expenditure solely for implementing the two schemes. The implementation of the two schemes will mainly be handled by existing staff, who are fully equipped with the relevant professional and technical expertise. In addition, clear and comprehensive guidelines will be provided for the staff in carrying out their duties under the two schemes.

Signature _____

Name in block letters AU Choi-kai

Post Title Director of Buildings

Date 29.2.2012