

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY 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:

In respect of the Buildings Department (“BD”)’s reply (Reply Serial No. DEVB(PL)078) showing that 85 Dangerous Hillside Orders issued to concerned owners were outstanding for more than ten years, BD is requested to provide information on the details of these cases, including the follow-up actions taken so far, and the number of cases of which BD will consider employing contractors to undertake the works and recover the costs from the owners concerned.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply:

Among the 85 Dangerous Hillside Orders (DHOs) that have been outstanding for more than ten years, the owners of 23 of the outstanding DHOs have already appointed Authorized Persons to carry out the required slope remedial works and the works are now at various stages of progress. The Buildings Department (BD) will continue to monitor the progress to ensure that the slope remedial works are completed as soon as possible.

For 48 of the outstanding DHOs where the owners have not taken any follow-up action, the BD has employed consultants/contractors to undertake the defaulted works on behalf of the owners. The slope remedial works for these 48 cases are now in progress and the BD will recover the costs of works and the supervision charge from the owners concerned upon the completion of works. For another six outstanding DHOs, the BD will prosecute the owners and is considering to carry out the defaulted works for these cases in parallel. The BD is also finalising the details of the enforcement action for the remaining eight outstanding DHOs and may instigate prosecution against the owners and/or carry out the defaulted works and then recover the costs from the owners upon completion of the works.

In addition to taking the above enforcement action, the BD will also arrange its consultants to regularly inspect those slopes that are covered by an outstanding DHO and for which an Authorized Person has yet to be appointed. Emergency remedial works will be carried out if a slope is found to be in a condition that will pose imminent danger to life or property.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ AU Choi-kai _____

Post Title _____ Director of Buildings _____

Date _____ 15 March 2012 _____