Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2014-15

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(PL)108

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1813)

Head: (82) Buildings Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

<u>Programme</u>: (1) Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings (AU Choi-kai)

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

Question (Member Question No. 3):

The Buildings Department expects that the number of removal orders issued to unauthorised building works will decrease from 12 005 in 2013 to 6 000 in 2014, and that resources will be redeployed to clear the backlog of outstanding removal orders. Please list in detail the respective numbers of backlog cases in the past five years, and the estimated number of cases that can be handled in 2014-15 after the resources redeployment.

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

The accumulative numbers of outstanding removal orders in the past five years are tabulated below:

Year	Accumulated No. of Outstanding Removal Orders
2009	55 000
2010	59 000
2011	61 000
2012	64 000
2013	68 000

In order to clear the backlog of outstanding removal orders, adjustments have been made to the various enforcement targets in 2014 as an interim arrangement to redeploy resources to clear the outstanding backlog orders. Additional resources will also be provided in 2014 for forming dedicated backlog clearance teams in order to clear the outstanding orders in a systematic manner. The number of unauthorised structures removed and irregularities rectified in 2014 in compliance with removal orders issued is estimated to be 17 000.