

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 1430)

Head: (82) Buildings Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works
Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings (AU Choi-kai)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question (Member Question No. 13):

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

In 2014-15, the Buildings Department will have 215 additional staff members, representing an increase of 16%. What is the related expenditure? What are the duties of these new members of staff ?

Reply:

215 new posts will be created in the Buildings Department (BD) in 2014-15. It is estimated that the salaries provision for these new posts is about \$84 million per annum.

Among the 215 new posts to be created in BD in 2014-15, 193 posts, comprising 58 professional staff, 110 technical staff and 25 supporting staff, will be deployed to the two Existing Buildings Divisions, the Mandatory Building Inspection Division and the Corporate Services Division of BD. They will mainly be engaged for enhancing BD's various building safety and maintenance enforcement programmes such as the enforcement action against unauthorised building works and sub-divided flats as well as the implementation of the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme and the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme. The remaining 22 posts will be assigned for strengthening services in the approval of building plans and related applications for private development projects (five posts, comprising two professional staff, two technical staff and one supporting staff) and the Joint Office to tackle reports on water seepage through a "one-stop" approach (17 posts, comprising two professional staff, 12 technical staff and three supporting staff).