

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(PL)308**

**(Question Serial No. 5779)**

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

Question (Member Question No. 340):

Last year, the Buildings Department carried out a large scale operation on removal of large unauthorised signboards targeting at 250 such signboards. What is the progress of the removal of these target signboards? Among the 250 target signboards, how many of them were arranged to be removed by the Government with the fee to be recovered later, and what is the expenditure for that? Is the Government able to recover the full cost for the removal works? If not, what are the reasons for that?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Under the large scale operation for the removal of 250 targeted large unauthorised signboards in 2013, 250 removal orders had been issued by the Buildings Department (BD). Out of these targeted signboards, 77 had already been removed by the owners by the end of February 2014. No signboard has been arranged to be removed by the Government in the owners' default.

BD will continue to monitor the progress of removal of the remaining targeted signboards. We will issue warning letters to the signboard owners to urge them to comply with the removal orders. Prosecution may be initiated if the owners fail to comply with the orders without any reasonable excuse after the issue of warning letter. Furthermore, if the signboards become dangerous, BD will engage government contractors to carry out the required works in the owners' default and recover the cost of such works, plus supervision charge and surcharge from the owners afterwards.