

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)320

(Question Serial No. 5801)

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. 352):

1. What was the total amount of resources used by the Department in the past year for the inspection of buildings in the urban areas for unauthorised building works (UBWs)? What was the number of statutory orders issued as a result of inspections initiated by the Department? How many cases incurred prosecution for non-compliance with the orders? What was the number of convicted cases?
2. How many removal orders against UBWs in buildings in the urban areas have not yet been complied with after the specified time? Please provide the numbers of statutory orders not yet complied with for one to three years, four to six years, seven to nine years, and ten years or above after the specified time.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

1. The enforcement action against unauthorised building works (UBWs) in the whole territory is carried out by the existing resources of 576 professional and technical staff of the two Existing Buildings Divisions, the Mandatory Building Inspection Division and the Minor Works and Signboard Control Section of the Buildings Department (BD) as part of their overall duties to implement BD's building safety and maintenance enforcement programme. We are not able to provide a breakdown of the resources involved solely for the inspection of buildings in the urban areas for UBWs.

In 2013, the number of removal orders issued, prosecutions instigated for non-compliance of removal orders and convicted cases in the whole territory are as follows:

No. of removal orders issued against UBWs	No. of prosecutions instigated	No. of cases convicted *
12 005	2 513	1 984

Note:

* As there is a lapse of time between the serving of summonses and adjudications by the Court, the convictions in 2013 may not necessarily arise from prosecutions instigated in that year.

We do not keep separate statistics on the enforcement action against UBWs in buildings in the urban areas.

2. As at the end of 2013, there were about 68 000 outstanding removal orders issued against UBWs in the whole territory. The distribution of these outstanding orders, according to the year of issue, is as follows:

Year of Issue	No. of Outstanding Orders
2004 and before	1 100
2005-2007	7 900
2008-2010	31 300
2011-2013	27 700
Total	68 000

We do not keep separate statistics on the number of outstanding removal orders issued against UBWs in buildings in the urban areas.