

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

S-DEVB(PL)10

(Question Serial No. S0065)

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:

With reference to Reply Serial No. DEVB101, the question was about the manpower and expenditure involved in inspecting sub-divided flats in target buildings and rectifying irregularities of sub-divided flats by the Buildings Department. However, the Administration did not answer the part of the question on the manpower and expenditure involved. Therefore, I would like to find out whether any staff shortage problem exists in the Buildings Department at the moment. If yes, what will be done by the Administration to solve the staff shortage problem of the Department?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The Buildings Department (BD) has been conducting large scale operations (LSOs) with the objective of rectifying irregularities of building works associated with sub-divided flats (SDFs) since 2011 by deploying the existing resources of professional and technical staff of the two Existing Buildings Divisions and the Mandatory Building Inspection Division of BD as part of their overall duties to implement BD's building safety and maintenance enforcement programme (enforcement programme). We are unable to provide a breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved solely for handling LSO on SDFs.

Among the 215 new civil service posts to be created in BD in 2014-15, 193 posts comprising 58 professional staff, 110 technical staff and 25 supporting staff will be engaged in enhancing the enforcement programme including enforcement against irregularities associated with SDFs. We will closely monitor the progress and staffing requirement of the enforcement programme, and bid for the required additional resources as necessary in future resource allocation exercises.