

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(PL)076**

**(Question Serial No. 0871)**

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:

In the Programme, the authorities stated that it would continue the large scale operation (LSOs) on inspection of sub-divided flats (SDFs) in target buildings. In this connection, please inform this Committee:

- (1) of the numbers of buildings targeted for inspection and the numbers of units involved, the actual numbers of buildings inspected and the numbers of units involved, the numbers of units found to have irregularities during inspection and issued with orders requiring rectification in the past two years, set out in a table with a breakdown by the 18 districts;
- (2) of the posts, staff establishment and related staff expenditure involved in the inspection of target buildings and enforcement in the past two years (2013-14 and 2014-15);
- (3) whether there is any plan to recruit additional staff in 2015-16; if so, of the number and posts of the additional staff and the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon MAK Mei-kuen, Alice (Member Question No. 10)

Reply:

- (1) The Buildings Department (BD) has been taking enforcement action against irregularities of building works associated with sub-divided flats (SDFs) in an orderly and systematic manner through large scale operations (LSOs). In 2013 and 2014, there were 608 buildings targeted under LSOs. The geographical distribution of the 608 target buildings, the number of SDFs inspected under LSOs and the number of removal/discontinuation orders (discontinuation orders for industrial buildings only) issued in 2013 and 2014 are tabulated as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>No. of target buildings</b>	<b>No. of SDFs inspected under LSOs</b> <sup>Note (1)</sup>	<b>No. of Removal/Discontinuation Orders issued in 2013 and 2014</b> <sup>Note (2)</sup>
Central and Western	38	53	2
Wan Chai	36	90	10
Eastern	26	58	18
Southern	12	31	0
Wong Tai Sin	14	28	1
Kwun Tong	46	235	5
Yau Tsim Mong	122	392	101
Sham Shui Po	91	374	294
Kowloon City	110	495	100
North	11	22	4
Sha Tin	9	15	17
Tai Po	18	26	0
Tsuen Wan	24	66	18
Tuen Mun	10	17	0
Yuen Long	31	45	1
Kwai Tsing	10	76	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>2 023</b>	<b>572</b>

Note (1): The inspection of SDFs in the target buildings is still ongoing. The figures show the position as at end February 2015.

Note (2): The number of removal/discontinuation orders issued in 2013 and 2014 does not necessarily correspond to the buildings targeted under LSOs in the two years.

(2) & (3) In 2014-15, the enforcement action against SDFs under LSOs is carried out by 378 professional and technical staff in the two Existing Buildings Divisions of the BD as part of their overall duties to implement the BD's building safety and maintenance enforcement programmes. We are not able to provide a breakdown of the manpower resources involved solely for handling LSOs on SDFs. The number of professional and technical staff in the two Existing Buildings Divisions who carried out the LSOs as part of their overall duties in 2013-14 was 341 <sup>Note (3)</sup>.

In 2015-16, additional manpower resources of 18 technical staff on non-civil service contract will be deployed to the two Existing Buildings Divisions in 2015-16 to assist in implementing the aforementioned programmes of the BD.

(Note (3): Before 2014-15, some staff in the Mandatory Buildings Inspection Division were also involved in LSOs on SDFs. Since 2014-15, the work has been centralised in the two Existing Building Divisions.)

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