DEVB(PL)250

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 4715)

<u>Head</u>: (82) Buildings Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings (HUI Siu-wai)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Development

Question:

Under this Programme, will the Government inform this Committee:

- (1) among the removal orders issued by the authorities for unauthorised building works (UBWs) in New Territories exempted houses (NTEHs) in the past two years, of the number of orders duly complied with, and of the number of cases with prosecution instigated in the end;
- (2) of the operational expenses, staff establishment and estimated expenditure on annual salaries for the specific task of controlling UBWs in NTEHs in 2015-16?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Wai-yip, Albert (Member Question No. 115)

Reply:

(1) The Buildings Department (BD) has been taking enforcement action against unauthorised building works (UBWs) in New Territories exempted houses (NTEHs) in accordance with the Buildings Ordinance (Cap. 123) and the prevailing enforcement policy. The numbers of removal orders issued, removal orders complied with and prosecutions instigated associated with UBWs in NTEHs in the past two years are tabulated below –

Year	Number of removal	Number of removal	Number of
	orders issued	orders complied	prosecutions
		with ⁽¹⁾	instigated ⁽¹⁾
2013	328	125	80
2014	454	234	79

Note ⁽¹⁾: The figures do not necessarily correspond to the number of removal orders issued in the same year.

(2) The enforcement against UBWs in NTEHs is handled by the 37 professional and technical staff of the Village Houses Section (VHS) of the BD. In 2015-16, the VHS will continue to maintain the existing manpower and the estimated expenditure is \$39 million.