

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(PL)260**

**(Question Serial No. 3430)**

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:

The authorities stated that the number of buildings targeted for removal of unauthorised building works on rooftops, flat roofs, yards and lanes was reduced to 270 as resources would be redeployed to clear the backlog of outstanding removal orders. In this connection, please inform this Committee:

- (a) of the number of cases in the backlog of the outstanding removal orders, and of the categories into which they fall;
- (b) whether there is any plan to increase manpower or resources to speed up the work of clearing backlog of outstanding removal orders to cope with the workload this year; if so, of the increase in the number of staff and of the expenditure involved; if not, the reasons for that.

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (Member Question No. 69)

Reply:

Since 2010, the Buildings Department (BD) has been taking enforcement action against unauthorised building works (UBWs) on rooftops, flat roofs, yards and lanes in an orderly and systematic manner through large scale operations (LSOs). The number of target buildings of LSOs was adjusted from 600 in 2013 to 200 and 270 in 2014 and 2015 respectively as manpower resources have been redeployed to clear the outstanding removal orders issued against UBWs.

My reply to the question is as follows –

- (a) As at the end of 2014, there were about 67 500 outstanding removal orders issued against UBWs in the whole territory. The BD does not compile separate statistics on the number of different types of UBWs involved in the removal orders.
- (b) The enforcement action against UBWs, including clearance of outstanding removal orders, is carried out by the existing resources of 620 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 BD as part of their overall duties to implement the BD's building safety and maintenance enforcement programmes. Additional resources of 18 technical staff on non-civil service contract will be deployed to the two Existing Building Divisions in 2015-16. We are not able to provide a breakdown of the manpower resources involved solely for the clearance of outstanding removal orders.

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