

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(PL)065**

**(Question Serial No. 0848)**

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:

As the Buildings Department will step up enforcement actions against non-compliant notices with regard to mandatory building inspection in 2016, what are the specific plans? Please set out the number of non-compliant notices in each administration district of the District Councils. What plans does the Government have to strengthen the assistance to owners of private buildings in order to help them fulfil their statutory responsibilities?

Asked by: Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Member Question No. 47)

Reply:

In 2016, the Buildings Department (BD) will continue to step up enforcement actions by issuing warning letters and instigating prosecutions against building owners who, without reasonable excuse, fail to comply with the statutory notices under the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme (MBIS). In addition, the BD may also arrange for the required building inspection and necessary repair works to be carried out in the event of default by owners. The cost of the prescribed inspection and repair works, supervision charges and a surcharge not exceeding 20% of the cost due will be recovered from the owners concerned.

As at 31 December 2015, the BD had issued 43 415 MBIS statutory notices, of which 38 184 have yet to be complied (including those with compliance period not yet expired). The geographical distribution of these notices is shown in the Annex.

The BD, in collaboration with relevant parties including the Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) and the Urban Renewal Authority (URA), will continue to operate various financial and technical assistance schemes and implement other measures to support building owners in fulfilling their statutory responsibilities under the MBIS, and in carrying out building repair and maintenance works in general. These include -

- (a) the Mandatory Building Inspection Subsidy Scheme administered by the HKHS and the URA, which provides subsidies, subject to a cap, for covering the expenses on the first prescribed building inspection of the common parts of a building conducted by a registered inspector, as well as provides standard tender documents and services agreements to owners for the appointment of a service provider;
- (b) other assistance schemes, including the Integrated Building Maintenance Assistance Scheme administered by the URA which provides owners in need with one-stop financial assistance and technical support for the formation of Owners' Corporation and for carrying out the prescribed building repair; the Building Safety Loan Scheme administered by the BD which offers low-interest loans for voluntary or mandatory building or slope repairs, maintenance and upgrading of fire services, lift, electrical and gas risers installations, and removal of unauthorised building works etc.; and the Building Maintenance Grant Scheme for Elderly Owners administered by the HKHS which caters specifically for the needs of elderly owners; and
- (c) the BD's continued public education and publicity efforts, including district briefing sessions held in collaboration with the Home Affairs Department, the HKHS, the URA to enhance public awareness of the MBIS, the relevant requirements and the details of the assistance schemes mentioned above.

- End -

**Compliance Status of MBIS Statutory Notices  
(as at 31 December 2015)**

<b>Districts</b>	<b>No. of MBIS Statutory Notices not yet discharged</b> <sup>Note 1</sup>
Central & Western	3 694
Eastern	8 727
Southern	958
Wan Chai	4 943
Kowloon City	7 059
Kwun Tong	697
Sham Shui Po	4 162
Wong Tin Sin	487
Yau Tsim Mong	4 511
Islands	527
Kwai Tsing	243
North	98
Sai Kung	34
Sha Tin	166
Tai Po	114
Tsuen Wan	294
Tuen Mun	1 228
Yuen Long	242
<b>Total</b>	<b>38 184</b>

Note 1: The figure includes MBIS statutory notices that the compliance periods have yet to expire.