

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)073

(Question Serial No. 1002)

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 respect of processing building plans for new buildings, although the authorities set the targets as 100% for processing building plans within 60 days for new submissions, processing building plans within 30 days for re-submissions and processing within 28 days applications for consent to commence building works, the targets have not been met over the past few years. In this connection, what are the difficulties faced by the authorities and the proposed improvement measures respectively?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (Member Question No.9)

Reply:

The cases where the said targets were not met mainly involved situations where the Buildings Department (BD) had already finished vetting the building plan/consent to commence building works applications, and considered that such applications could be approved subject to minor amendments or further particulars to be furnished by the applicants. In such cases, the BD would allow the applicants to make the minor amendments or furnish the required particulars after the stipulated target date for processing the applications. This is a practice well-accepted by the industry for streamlining the processing of applications, and is preferred to the alternative of rejecting the applications before the stipulated target date which would cost the BD and the applicants extra time and efforts to restart the entire vetting process.

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