

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****DEVB(PL)300****(Question Serial No. 6087)**

Head: (82) Buildings Department

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

Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings (CHEUNG Tin-cheung)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Currently, the Buildings Department (BD) is responsible for the inspection of unauthorised building works (UBWs). Will the authorities inform this Committee in table form:

1. of the expenditure and staff establishment involved in the inspections of UBWs carried out by the BD staff in each of the past five years;
2. of the number of buildings subject to inspections initiated by BD in each of the past five years;
3. of the number of cases of UBWs in buildings identified in inspections initiated by BD in the past five years.

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 52)

Reply:

1. The Buildings Department (BD) takes enforcement action against unauthorised building works (UBWs) in response to public reports and through its large scale operations (LSOs). Enforcement action against UBWs has been carried out by the professional and technical staff of the two Existing Buildings Divisions, the Mandatory Building Inspection Division and the Minor Works and Signboard Control Section of BD as part of their overall duties to implement BD's building safety and maintenance enforcement programmes. The staff establishment for implementing the aforementioned programmes in the past five years are tabulated below –

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
No of professional and technical staff	576	620	630	633	638

We are not able to provide a breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved solely for the inspections of UBWs carried out by BD staff.

2. & 3. The numbers of buildings subject to inspections through various LSOs and the number removal orders issued in relation to UBWs enforcement actions under these LSOs in the past five years are tabulated below –

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Number of buildings	9 827	5 718	5 674	4 617	4 384
Number of removal orders issued <sup>(1)</sup>	9 185	10 158	10 903	10 528	9 967

Note <sup>(1)</sup>: The figures do not necessarily correspond to the buildings inspected in the same period.

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