

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**DEVB(PL)111****(Question Serial No. 3067)**

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:

Regarding the prosecutions instigated against non-compliance with removal orders for unauthorised building works (UBWs) in existing buildings:

- (a) how many cases were under investigation in each of the past five years?
- (b) how many prosecutions were instigated in each of the five years?
- (c) what is the expected number of prosecutions to be instigated this year?
- (d) does the estimated expenditure include the provision for the case of UBWs involving Otto Poon Lok-to? If yes, what is the estimated expenditure for the prosecution concerned in Hong Kong dollars?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (LegCo internal reference no.: 1039)

Reply:

- (a) The Buildings Department (BD) has not compiled statistics on cases under investigation in respect of non-compliance with removal orders for unauthorised buildings works (UBWs).
- (b) The number of prosecutions instigated by BD against failure to comply with removal orders for UBWs in the past five years is tabulated below –

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of prosecutions	2 532	3 030	3 362	3 369	3 360

- (c) The estimated number of prosecutions against failure to comply with removal orders for UBWs in 2019 is 3 300.

- (d) Prosecutions against contraventions of the Buildings Ordinance are handled by the Prosecution Units of the Legal Services Section of BD as part of their overall duties to instigate prosecutions and disciplinary actions. BD is unable to provide the estimated expenditure for prosecution action with regard to a specific case.

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