Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2019-20

Reply Serial No.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)275

(Question Serial No. 6196)

Head: (82) Buildings Department

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

<u>Programme</u>: (1) Buildings and Building Works

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Buildings (CHEUNG Tin-cheung)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Development

Question:

In connection with rectification of irregularities of building works associated with sub-divided flats (SDFs)(including those used for domestic purposes in industrial buildings) by the Buildings Department, would the Bureau inform this Committee of the following:

(a) Please provide in table form the list of target buildings inspected, the numbers of SDFs involved and SDFs with irregularities as well as the irregularities involved in each building in the past five years.

Year	Name and	Number c	f	Number o	f Details of the
	address of the	SDFs in th	e	SDFs with	irregularities
	target building	building		irregularities	involved
	inspected				

(b) Regarding the SDFs rectified of irregularities, please provide in table form the names of buildings concerned and details of the irregularities involved in the past five years.

Year	Name and address	Number of SDFs	Details of the
	of the building with	with irregularities	irregularities
	"SDFs rectified of		involved
	irregularities"		

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 3014)

Reply:

Apart from responding to reports, the Buildings Department (BD) also takes enforcement action for rectifying building irregularities in sub-divided flats (SDFs) through large scale operations (LSOs). Disclosure of the list of target buildings may affect the enforcement action that will be taken by BD. It is therefore inappropriate to disclose the names of the target buildings involved.

Statistics on the overall number of SDFs inspected, SDFs with irregularities identified and SDFs rectified of irregularities in the past five years are tabulated below –

Year	Number of SDFs inspected	Number of SDFs with irregularities identified ⁽¹⁾	Number of SDFs rectified of irregularities ⁽¹⁾
2014	2 218	282	295
2015	3 466	288	207
2016	3 045	262	254
2017	2 230	266	253
2018	1 798	604	249

Note (1): The figures do not necessarily correspond to the SDFs inspected in the same period.

The commonly found building irregularities associated with SDFs are the formation of unauthorised door openings that contravene the fire-resisting construction requirements of fire escape routes, the erection of partition walls that block fire escape routes, sub-standard drainage works that result in serious water seepage, and excessive installation of partition walls and/or thickening of floor screeding that result in overloading of the floor slabs.