

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)028

Question Serial No.

0455

Head : 82 Buildings Department Subhead(No. & title) :

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question :

- (a) The Buildings Department will provide assistance to building owners by further improving the Comprehensive Building Safety Improvement Loan Scheme this year. What is the estimated expenditure for this initiative? What types of building owners can be assisted?
- (b) What is the amount of provision earmarked by the Buildings Department for reviewing the statutory requirements for periodic maintenance of buildings? What are the details of the statutory requirements and what is the implementation schedule?

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

- (a) The total approved commitment for the loan scheme is \$700 million. For 2003, we estimate that the amount of loan approved will be about \$70 million.. Owners of private buildings including domestic, composite, commercial and industrial buildings, who wish to obtain financial assistance in carrying out specified works for improving the safety of their buildings may apply for loans under the scheme.
- (b) The Buildings Department has not set aside a specific provision for statutory periodic maintenance of buildings for 2003. We do not envisage introducing such a scheme in the near future. Therefore, we have not drawn up the details nor the implementation schedule.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Marco WU

Director of Buildings

21.3.2003