

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

Replv Serial No.

HPLB(PL)034

Question Serial No.

0567

Head : 82 Buildings Department Subhead(No. & title) : 000 Operational expenses

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question :

As for “the number of buildings targeted for clearance of unauthorized building works”, the actual number in 2001 and 2002 is 3.9 times and 1.8 times higher than the respective targets. Why is the target in 2003 set at 1 000 only? Will the number of staff responsible for this task increase? If yes, what are the number of increase and the relevant provision?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply :

We have adopted an annual target of 900 buildings in 2001 and 1,000 buildings in 2002 for clearance of unauthorized building works (UBW). These targets are considerably higher than those in previous years. In 2001 and 2002, the Buildings Department (BD) over-achieved its targets and dealt with 1,571 and 1,759 buildings respectively. As a result, in 2003, BD has to follow up on a much larger number of orders that have been brought forward than in previous years, including taking prosecution action if necessary, to ensure their compliance. We consider that the target of 1,000 buildings for clearance of UBW is appropriate for 2003.

There is no planned increase in the number of staff deployed for the clearance operations.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Marco WU

Director of Buildings

21.3.2003