

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)051

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

1451

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question :

Regarding the removal of unauthorised building works (UBW) of existing buildings, the number of structures removed was increased from 37 920 to 49 550 in 2003. However, as for "the buildings targeted for clearance of unauthorised building works", the data are as follows:

<u>2002 (Actual)</u>	<u>2003 (Actual)</u>	<u>2004(Plan)</u>
1759	1007	1000

- (a) Why is there a drastic decrease in the number of target buildings in 2004 compared with that in 2002? Is it related to the reduction in the establishment (from 953 in 2002 to the 891 in 2004's Estimate)?
- (b) Why is there an increase in the number of the UBW removed even though the number of target buildings was reduced in 2002-03?
- (c) What is the target number of UBW in existing buildings to be removed in 2004? How will the Administration achieve the above target if the establishment is reduced?

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

- (a) In 2004, we have to deploy our resources to follow up the removal orders issued to owners of buildings targetted for clearance of UBW in 2002 and 2003. Therefore we can only target 1,000 buildings for the operations in 2004.
- (b) The number of buildings targetted for clearance operations may not have a direct relationship with the number of UBW removed in the same year as there is normally a certain time gap between the date of issue of removal orders and the date of removal of the UBW concerned. The Buildings Department targetted a large number of buildings for clearance operations in 2002 (1,759 buildings). This has resulted in a large number of UBW removed in 2003 (49,556 UBW).

- (c) It is estimated that the number of UBW removed in 2004 will be about 38,000. Buildings Department will achieve the target through outsourcing and the employment of contract staff.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	_____ Marco WU _____
Post Title	_____ Director of Buildings _____
Date	_____ 26.3.2004 _____