

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)064

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

1158

Head : 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead(No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Mechanical engineering installations safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : Since 2002, there is a downward trend in the number of inspections of lifts and escalators conducted by EMSD each year. According to the plan of EMSD, the numbers of inspections of lifts and escalators (other than aged lifts) and aged lifts in 2004 will drop to 3,800 and 1,200 respectively.

- (a) What is the reason for the continual decrease in the number of inspections in recent years? Is it related to inadequate manpower of EMSD?
- (b) At present, how many staff in the department are responsible for the inspection of lifts and escalators? Is there any change in the number of these staff in the past three years?
- (c) On average, how many lifts and escalators are to be inspected every day or every week by each staff? What is the average working hours per day of each staff?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Fu-wah

- Reply :
- (a) The total number of lifts and escalators inspected in 2002 and 2003 are 5340 and 5291 respectively. The difference, which is less than 1%, is mainly due to the fluctuation of workload. For 2004, despite a decrease in inspections due to re-organisation of work to achieve better resource utilization, the total number of inspections is still maintained at 5000. With streamlined procedures and better utilization of resources, it is anticipated that the impact on the regulatory service of lifts and escalators would not be significant.
  - (b) The number of staff members in EMSD designated to inspect lifts and escalators was increased from 7 in 2001 to 9 in 2002 and remained the same up to the present.
  - (c) Based on the actual figures for 2003, the average number of lifts and escalators inspected was 11.3 per inspector per week. The normal working hours of an inspector is 44 hours per week.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ Roger S. H. LAI

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of Electrical and  
Mechanical Services

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 24 March 2004