

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

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 :

In 2005-06, the Buildings Department will “sustain action to improve building safety, targeting 1 000 buildings for carrying out blitz clearance of unauthorised building works on the external walls and 700 single-staircase buildings for clearance of illegal rooftop structures”. Can the Administration advise on the details of this area of work as well as its expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

In 2005-06, we will select 1,000 buildings for clearance of external unauthorised building works (UBW) under blitz operations. We will outsource some of our work to private consultant firms, and the outsourcing cost is estimated to be \$15 million. A major bulk of the work will continue to be discharged by the Department involving a total of 386 professional and technical officers. As the carrying out of blitz operations forms only part of the duties of these BD staff, it is not possible to provide a breakdown of the estimated expenditure in staff costs allocated to this area of work.

As regards the clearance of illegal rooftop structures on 700 single staircase buildings in 2005, 83 professional and technical officers in the department are involved. The staff cost involved is \$23.4 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Marco WU

Director of Buildings

6 April 2005