

**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 :

The Buildings Department (BD) has mentioned that it would “provide assistance to building owners in maintaining their buildings under the Comprehensive Building Safety Improvement Loan Scheme” in 2005-06. Can the Administration elaborate on the details of duties responsible by BD under the said scheme, its expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

The Comprehensive Building Safety Improvement Loan Scheme (BSLS) provides loans to owners of private buildings who are in need of financial assistance to improve the safety of their buildings and slopes voluntarily, or in response to statutory orders. In administering the loan scheme, we evaluate the eligibility of applicants, check the eligibility of works under application and determine the amount of loans to be granted to the applicants. In 2005-06, we estimate that we will approve 2,500 applications with new loans amounting to \$70 million. To handle these tasks, we have a dedicated Building Safety Loan Scheme Unit in our department comprising one Senior Executive Officer, two Executive Officer I, one Accounting Officer I, one Accounting Officer II, one Administrative Assistant and 13 clerical cum secretarial staff. The annual staff cost is \$5.6 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Marco WU

Director of Buildings

6 April 2005