

**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 “upgrade the fire safety standards of old composite buildings in collaboration with the Fire Services Department” in 2005-06. Could the department elaborate on the details of this item of work, its expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

Since 2002, the Department has been allocated \$15.35 million per annum to employ 47 additional professional and technical staff to inspect and improve the fire safety of old composite and residential buildings in stages. The Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance was enacted in July 2002. Pending the operation of the Ordinance, BD and the Fire Services Department have been urging and supporting building owners to voluntarily carry out fire safety improvement works for their premises. In 2003 and 2004, 1807 composite buildings were inspected. The target is to deal with 900 composite buildings on an advisory basis in 2005.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Marco WU

Director of Buildings

6 April 2005