Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)043

Question Serial No.

1188

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:

Regarding

(a) buildings targeted for clearance of unauthorised building works

- (b) single-staircase buildings improved under rooftop structure clearance operations
- (c) composite buildings inspected for improvement of fire safety measures

of existing buildings, the planned targets in 2005 is lower than the actual performance in 2003 and 2004. Can the Administration state the reason why? Will the Administration consider upgrading the relevant targets to meet with the actual working ability?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply:

The Department's targets for 2003-2005, together with the actual and planned performance for the three items in question are shown in the following table :

No.	Work Item	Target	2003 (Actual)	2004 (Actual)	2005 (Plan)
(1)	Buildings targeted for clearance of unauthorised building works	1,000/year	1,007	1,027	1,000
(2)	Single-staircase buildings improved under rooftop structure clearance operations	700/year	713	714	700
(3)	Composite buildings inspected for improvement of fire safety measures	900/year	800	1,007	900

The targets set for 2003 to 2005 were the same. We have slightly exceeded the set targets for items (1) and (2) in 2003 and 2004. However, regarding item (3), in addition to the inspection and the issue of letters advising owners to undertake improvement of fire safety measures in composite buildings, we have to advise building owners of the improvement works required and how to carry out those improvement works. The additional work has necessitated the deployment of more staff resources. As a result, the actual performance in 2003 fell slightly short of the target, whereas in 2004 the target was exceeded.

The planned performance for 2005 has been assessed having regard to past performance and other work priorities. In view of the need to follow through the removal orders and the advices on fire safety improvement which have not been complied with, we consider the targets set for the above work items in 2005 are realistic and achievable.

Signature				
Name in block letters	Marco WU			
Post Title	Director of Buildings			
Date	6 April 2005			

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