

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**Reply Serial No.**

**HPLB(PL)053**

Question Serial No.

0798

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 : The number of incidents related to registered escalators increased significantly. Why was the accident rate so high? Please state the reasons and any follow-up and improvement measures taken.

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

The increase in the number of escalator incidents mainly occurred in railway stations (432 cases in 2003 and 588 cases in 2004).

Investigation results showed that most of these incidents were related to passengers' behaviour, such as passengers falling whilst travelling on escalators. To address the situation, we have strengthened public education and publicity through distributing leaflets, posters and other materials to the public regularly; and organizing safety talks, safety carnival and outreaching programme for kindergartens and schools to promote the safe use of lifts and escalators. In organizing promotional activities in the coming year, we will give particular attention to the identified target groups, such as the users of the Mass Transit Railway and Kowloon Canton Railway, visitors to Hong Kong and parents and children.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters    Roger S. H. LAI

Post Title    Director of Electrical and  
Mechanical Services

Date    2 April 2005

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