

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-HPLB(PL)01

Question Serial No.

SV09

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 : To provide information on the cost and manpower resources incurred in the clearance of illegal rooftop structures, and on how much of the costs so incurred could be recovered from the owners concerned.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply :

In our Department, there are 83 professional and technical officers involved in the clearance of illegal rooftop structures on 700 single staircase buildings each year. The staff cost is \$23.4 million per year.

The work includes inspection of rooftop structures and issue of removal orders. In the event that a removal order is not complied with, the Department may take prosecution action and use court sanction to require the owner to carry out the removal works.

Our department is empowered under the Buildings Ordinance to arrange for the demolition works if an owner fails to comply with an order, and to recover the full cost for demolition and supervision work from the owner. In the past three years, a total amount of \$1.76 million involving 98 cases had been recovered from the owners concerned. The Department is in the process of recovering an outstanding amount of \$1.6 million involving 63 cases.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Marco WU

Director of Buildings

16 April 2005