

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2006-07
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)037

Question Serial No.

1898

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 the enforcement and clearance of outstanding removal orders, what is the expenditure involved in 2006-07? Will the Administration raise the target so as to expedite the work progress? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

To reduce the number of outstanding removal orders in respect of unauthorised building works (UBWs), we have deployed additional resources and set performance targets on phased clearance of the outstanding removal orders. These performance targets together with the ageing analyses of outstanding cases are published on the Buildings Department (BD) website. The enforcement and clearance of the outstanding removal orders against UBWs will be discharged by the 667 professional and technical officers (at an annual cost of \$205.88 million) of BD as part of their duties in dealing with the UBWs problems and dilapidated buildings in 2006. It is not possible to isolate the expenditure allocated to this particular area of work.

We have stepped up prosecution actions against those owners who failed to comply with removal orders and the number of prosecutions has increased from 1 664 in 2004 to 2 962 in 2005. We plan to instigate 3 000 prosecutions against non-compliance with removal order in 2006.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

CHEUNG Hau-wai

Director of Buildings

11 March 2006

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