

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

**Reply Serial No.**

**HPLB(PL)049**

Question Serial No.

1457

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 : In 2005, the actual number of cases handled on reports from members of the public on dilapidated buildings were 15 523, 3 838 more as compared with 2004. However, the number of repair orders issued and cases handled in 2006-07 will be reduced instead of increased. In this connection:

- (a) please list out the type of cases handled in 2005-06 and that of the additional 3 838 cases;
- (b) the details on how to decide the numbers of cases handled and repair orders issued for the coming year;
- (c) what are the reasons accounting for the reduced numbers of repair orders issued and cases handled instead of increase in 2006-07?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

- (a) For the reports from members of the public on dilapidated buildings handled by the Buildings Department (BD) in 2004 and 2005, the types of defects involved are as follows:

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>Increase/Decrease</b>
<b>External Building Defects</b>	1849	3174	1325
<b>Internal Building Defects</b>	322	251	-71
<b>Drainage Defects</b>	893	1195	302
<b>Water Seepage</b>	6931	8412	1481
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	1690	2491	801
<b>Total</b>	11685	15523	3838

(b)&(c) In estimating the number of reports on dilapidated buildings attended to for 2006, we note that there is a rising trend of such reports as follows: -

<b>Year</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
<b>Reports on dilapidated buildings attended to</b>	5496	8334	11685	15523

The rising trend is probably due to the increase of public awareness of building safety as a result of BD's sustained publicity programmes through various media in this respect over the past years. We anticipate that the number of reports on dilapidated buildings to be received from the public in 2006 will be at a level similar to that in 2005, and therefore estimate it to be 15000.

Regarding repair orders issued, the numbers in the past four years are as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
<b>Repair orders issued</b>	671	2676	1593	901

It should be noted that the sharp increase in 2003 and 2004 was due to the increase in the number of repair orders issued on defective drainage pipes during and after the SARS outbreak in 2003. Since nearly all the defective drainage pipes identified in the territory-wide surveillance conducted by BD during SARS have now been repaired, we anticipate that the repair orders to be issued in 2006 would return to a normal level. We have made reference to the number of repair orders issued in 2002 and 2005 and estimated the number in 2006 to be 800.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

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CHEUNG Hau-wai

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Director of Buildings

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11 March 2006

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