

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)058

Question Serial No.

2089

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 : As in 2004 and 2005, the number of prescribed commercial premises inspected for improvement of fire safety are 26% higher than the target. Has the Administration considered upgrading the target and improve the services?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Heung-man

Reply :

The objective of the Fire Safety (Commercial Premises) Ordinance is to improve the fire safety provisions in existing prescribed commercial premises (PCP) to which the Ordinance applies. This involves the retro-fitting of fire safety provisions in these old commercial premises. In the implementation of the Ordinance, the Buildings Department (BD), jointly with the Fire Services Department, has to firstly inspect the target PCP to determine the appropriate improvement works before issuing the fire safety directions to the owners.

In addition, to ensure improvement in fire safety provisions for these PCPs, we have to follow up with the owners to pursue compliance with the directions, including explaining the required improvement works to them and helping them to organise themselves to carry out the works. The target of inspecting 150 PCP per year was set with regard to the staff resources available, and the various tasks that BD has to carry out in the implementation of the Ordinance. We consider that this target should be maintained. We appreciate the importance of this area of work, and will strive to inspect 190 PCPs in 2006.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

CHEUNG Hau-wai

Director of Buildings

11 March 2006

[TOP](#)