

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(W)094

(Question Serial No. 1892)

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): Not Specified
Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety
Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In 2015-16, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will continue the stepped-up inspection and enforcement actions, public education and publicity efforts to enhance the safety of lifts and escalators. In this regard, would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

1. The number of lifts and escalators inspected and the associated expenditures in the past five years; and
2. Details of the work in 2015-16 and the expenditure breakdown.

Asked by: Hon TIEN Pei-chun, James (Member Question No. 32)

Reply:

1. The number of lifts and escalators inspected in the past five years are given in the following table:

| Year | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Number of Lifts Inspected | 7 617 | 7 603 | 7 875 | 9 258 | 10 850 |
| Number of Escalators Inspected | 1 490 | 1 504 | 1 298 | 1 306 | 1 423 |

The total expenditure on lift and escalator safety in the past five financial years from 2010-11 to 2014-15 is \$25.9 million, \$25.4 million, \$32.0 million, \$35.5 million and \$36.0 million respectively. The lift and escalator inspection is carried out by a team of engineers and inspectors whose responsibilities cover the whole range of work related to lift and escalator safety. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) does not have a breakdown of expenditures on inspection work only.

2. The work related to lift and escalator safety in 2015-16 includes:
- (i) Inspecting 11 800 lifts and escalators according to risk-based approach;
 - (ii) Enforcement actions on those who have contravened the Lifts and Escalators Ordinance;
 - (iii) Maintaining a registration system for lift and escalator contractors, engineers and workers to ensure their technical competence; and
 - (iv) Public education and publicity including the provision of support to Responsible Persons in managing their lifts and promotion of modernisation of aged lifts.

The estimated total expenditure in 2015-16 for lift and escalator safety is \$36 million. As the whole range of work is carried out together by a team of engineers and inspectors, EMSD does not have a breakdown of the estimated expenditures for individual work items.

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