Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2015-16

Reply Serial No.

THB(T)024

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1315)

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

<u>Programme</u>: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Please advise this Committee of the latest development of the voluntary registration scheme for vehicle mechanics; the number of vehicle mechanics who joined the voluntary registration scheme and the percentage of vehicle mechanics registered in Hong Kong; and the work details, target and budgeted expenditure to promote the voluntary registration scheme for vehicle mechanics by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) in 2015. Does the Government have plan to implement mandatory registration scheme for vehicle mechanics? If yes, when it will be implemented? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon YICK Chi-ming, Frankie (Member Question No. 31)

Reply:

As of 1 March 2015, 6511 vehicle mechanics were registered under the voluntary registration scheme, which was about 72% of the total vehicle mechanics in Hong Kong with reference to the result of a survey conducted in 2014. The EMSD will continue to promote the voluntary registration scheme in 2015 through various means, including publicity videos, newsletters and promotional visits to vehicle maintenance workshops. The budgeted expenditure involved in implementing and promoting the voluntary registration schemes for vehicle mechanics and the vehicle maintenance workshops is \$5.84 million in 2015-16. There is no separate breakdown of the budgeted expenditure for the two schemes.

A mandatory registration scheme for vehicle mechanics will be considered in consultation with the trade, taking into account the results of both the voluntary registration scheme for vehicle mechanics and the voluntary registration scheme for vehicle maintenance workshops, as well as the cost and benefit of a mandatory scheme.