

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(W)087**

**(Question Serial No. 0354)**

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 2016-17, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will continue the stepped-up 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. In the past five years, what are the respective numbers of incidents of lifts and escalators that involved equipment failure and causing passenger injuries? How many of them were serious incidents? Please list the responsible registered lift contractors and registered escalator contractors.
2. The number of lifts and escalators inspected and the associated expenditures from last year to now; and
3. Details of the work in 2016-17 and the expenditure breakdown.

Asked by: Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok (Member Question No. 11)

Reply:

1. The number of incidents related to equipment failure and causing passenger injuries in the past five years are given in the table below.

<b>Year</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Number of lift incidents related to equipment failure and causing passenger injuries</b>	15	13	4	2	10
<b>Number of escalator incidents related to equipment failure and causing passenger injuries</b>	6	6	2	0	7

In the past five years, there was one serious lift incident related to equipment failure and causing passenger injuries. The incident happened in North Point in March 2013. The concerned registered lift contractor was Shineford Engineering Limited, which was subsequently convicted by the court and its registration was cancelled in October 2013.

2. In 2015, there were 10 090 inspections of lifts and 1 708 inspections of escalators. The estimated total expenditure on lift and escalator safety in 2015-16 is \$36 million. 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.
3. In 2016-17, the EMSD will continue the stepped-up public education and publicity efforts to enhance the safety of lifts and escalators. The work related to lift and escalator safety in 2016-17 includes:
  - (i) Inspecting 10 300 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 2016-17 for lift and escalator safety is \$30 million. As the whole range of work is carried out together by a team of engineers and inspectors, the EMSD does not have a breakdown of the estimated expenditures for individual work items.

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