

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ENB204**

**(Question Serial No. 3923)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department  
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified  
Programme: (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety  
Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

With regard to gas safety and the current status of regulation, please inform this Committee of the following:

1. The numbers of Class 1 to Class 8 registered gas installers and gas contractors, and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicle maintenance workshops in 2016-17 and the estimated numbers in 2017-18;
2. In response to the fatal incident 2 years ago involving a workshop servicing an LPG vehicle, will the Department devise a work plan for enhancing the safety of the trade? What are the additional manpower and estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (Member Question No. 90)

Reply:

1. The numbers of registered gas installers and registered gas contractors responsible for residential, commercial and industrial gas installation works (Class 1 to Class 8) in 2016-17 and 2017-18 are tabulated below:

Year	Registered Gas Installer	Registered Gas Contractor
2016-17	4 446	459
2017-18 (Estimate)	4 550	460

Besides, there are currently a total of around 2 700 vehicle maintenance workshops in Hong Kong, of which about 235 provide maintenance services for LPG vehicles. It is estimated that the number of vehicle maintenance workshops providing maintenance services for LPG vehicles in 2017-18 would be similar to that of the previous year.

2. In response to the fatal incident 2 years ago involving a workshop servicing an LPG vehicle, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) allocated 7 additional inspectors in 2016 to further strengthen the inspection and regulation of and education for vehicle maintenance workshops. The total funding allocated for 2017-18 is \$4.75 million and EMSD will flexibly deploy manpower resources having regard to operational needs to assist in handling the work related to the provision of maintenance services for LPG vehicles.

Apart from conducting more inspections to vehicle maintenance workshops, EMSD has implemented the “Code of Practice on Security Label System for LPG Vehicle Fuel Tanks” since January 2017, in order to ensure the work processes involving revalidation or replacement of internal and external components of fuel tanks are carried out at approved workshops and by competent persons to further strengthen the regulatory control over the maintenance of LPG vehicle fuel tanks, and to safeguard the safety of the public and trade practitioners. EMSD will also continue to promote the adoption of the identification signage scheme for workshops that provide maintenance services for LPG vehicle fuel systems so as to facilitate their easy identification by LPG vehicle owners, drivers and the public.

In addition, EMSD will continue to educate and publicise to LPG vehicle owners/drivers and the relevant trades about the repair and maintenance of LPG vehicles through various channels, such as talks, seminars, issuance of notices, and distribution of leaflets, etc., and to exchange views with LPG vehicle agents through regular meetings on safety related issues.

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