

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 0917)**

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 Transport and Housing

Question:

In 2016-17, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) will continue to promote and implement the voluntary registration schemes for vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops, as well as to conduct an in-depth study on the development of a mandatory registration system for both vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops. Please advise this Committee of:

- (a) the number and the percentage of registered vehicle mechanics and workshops under the voluntary registration schemes for vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops in 2016-17;
- (b) the resources for handling the work and work details and targets of the voluntary registration schemes for vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops in 2017-18; and
- (c) the progress of the study on the development of a mandatory registration system for both vehicle mechanics and workshops, and when the system will be implemented.

Asked by: Hon YICK Chi-ming, Frankie (Member Question No. 41)

Reply:

- (a) As of 28 February 2017, there were 8 716 vehicle mechanics registered under the voluntary registration scheme, representing about 92% of the total vehicle mechanics in Hong Kong. Besides, since the implementation of the voluntary registration scheme for vehicle maintenance workshops on 15 July 2015, 1 735 vehicle maintenance workshops have been successfully registered so far, amounting to about 64% of the total vehicle maintenance workshops in Hong Kong. The number of vehicle mechanics employed by the registered vehicle maintenance workshops is about 89% of the total vehicle mechanics in Hong Kong.

- (b) The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) will continue to promote the voluntary registration schemes for vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops in 2017-18 through various means, including broadcasting of television and radio announcements in the public interest, publication of newsletters, establishment of a demonstration workshop for conducting talks on the requirements under the Practice Guidelines for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops, and promotional visits to vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops. The budgeted expenditure involved in implementing and promoting the voluntary registration schemes for vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops is \$5.41 million in 2017-18. There is no separate breakdown of the budgeted expenditure for the two schemes.
  
- (c) EMSD has commenced an in-depth study on the feasibility of putting in place a mandatory registration system for the vehicle maintenance trade (including both mechanics and workshops), with regard to the experience of the 2 voluntary registration schemes for vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops. EMSD will maintain close communication with the trade on the study.

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