

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

THB(T)024

(Question Serial No. 1787)

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 (Alfred W H SIT)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

- (a) In respect of the promotion and administration of the voluntary registration scheme for vehicle mechanics (VRSVM) and the voluntary registration scheme for vehicle maintenance workshops (VRSVMW), what is the current registration situation of the two schemes, including the numbers of registered vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops and their respective percentages in the total numbers of vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops in Hong Kong?
- (b) In 2018-19, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) is studying the feasibility of a mandatory registration system for both vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops. What are the progress and timetable of the study?
- (c) In 2018-19, the EMSD will step up inspections of vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops under the voluntary registration schemes. What are the objective of such work and the budget involved?

Asked by: Hon YICK Chi-ming, Frankie (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 47)

Reply:

- (a) Following a series of promotional activities, the number of vehicle mechanics successfully registered under the VRSVM reached 9 375 (as at end February 2018), which is about 90% of the total number of vehicle mechanics in Hong Kong. The number of vehicle maintenance workshops successfully registered under the VRSVMW reached 1 919 (as at end February 2018), which is about 67% of the total number of vehicle maintenance workshops in Hong Kong. The number of vehicle mechanics employed by the above registered workshops accounted for about 79% of the total number of vehicle mechanics in Hong Kong.
- (b) The EMSD and the Transport and Housing Bureau are studying the feasibility and possible options of a mandatory registration system for both vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops in 2018-19, in the light of the experience of the two voluntary registration schemes for vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance

workshops. The EMSD will continue to maintain close communication with the trade in relation to the development of the scheme.

- (c) The inspections of vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops under the voluntary registration schemes will be stepped up in 2018-19. The stepped-up inspections aim at enhancing the compliance culture of the trade with respect to various requirements under the voluntary registration schemes, thereby raising the professional and service standards of the trade. We estimate that the stepped-up inspections will incur an additional annual expenditure of about \$5.5 million in 2018-19.

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