

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(W)075

(Question Serial No. 2398)

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 (PANG Yiu-hung)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

According to the Controlling Officer's Report, a total of 93 010 certificates for lifts and escalators were processed in 2020. How many lifts and escalators are currently in use in Hong Kong? How many of the 93 010 certificates were issued for lifts and escalators respectively? The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) conducted investigation on 276 lift and escalator incidents in 2020. What were the numbers of lift and escalator incidents in the past three years (please list by year, and by lift and escalator separately)? What were the numbers of lift and escalator incidents backlogged and not yet investigated by the EMSD in the past three years?

Asked by: Hon OR Chong-shing, Wilson (LegCo internal reference no.: 28)

Reply:

As at end February 2021, there are a total of 70 257 lifts and 10 048 escalators in Hong Kong.

In 2020, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) issued 72 450 and 20 560 certificates for lifts and escalators respectively, adding up to a total of 93 010 certificates. The types of certificates issued are as follows:

- (1) use permits issued for newly installed lifts and escalators;
- (2) resumption permits issued for lifts and escalators which have undergone major alteration works; and
- (3) renewal use permits issued for existing lifts and escalators.

In the past three years, the numbers of lift/escalator incidents reported to the EMSD in accordance with the Lifts and Escalators Ordinance (the Ordinance) (Cap. 618) are tabulated below:

Year		2018	2019	2020
Number of lift incidents	Incidents caused by passenger behaviour <small>Note 1</small>	387	358	226
	Incidents caused by other factors <small>Note 2</small>	17	9	12
	Total:	404	367	238
Number of escalator incidents	Incident caused by passenger behaviour <small>Note 1</small>	1 624	1 699	1 445
	Incident caused by other factors <small>Note 2</small>	32	72	71
	Total:	1 656	1 771	1 516

Note 1: For example, passengers fell down due to loss of balance

Note 2: For example, incidents caused by external factors, equipment fault or those occurred when works were being carried out

Most of the lift/escalator incidents listed above were minor incidents caused by passenger behaviour. Under the Ordinance, registered contractors must, in respect of any reportable lift/escalator incident, cause a registered engineer to investigate the incident and submit a report. The EMSD will review the submitted reports and lift/escalator incidents that have come to its knowledge from other channels, and conduct detailed investigations into the more serious cases. In 2020, the EMSD investigated 276 incidents. In the past three years, there was no backlog of incident cases not yet investigated by the EMSD.

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