

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead:

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

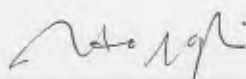
Question:

- (a) The actual number of inspections of aerial ropeways in 2007 was 113, with an increase of 33 in number or 41%. Please advise the reasons for the increase of actual number of inspections, comparing with the estimated number, and the increase in expenditure involved.
- (b) The estimated number of inspections in 2008 is 80, which is same as the original estimate in 2007. Please advise the reasons of not increasing the estimate in 2008 in view of the actual number of inspections conducted in 2007.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

- (a) The planned number of inspections for the aerial ropeways at Ocean Park and Ngong Ping 360 was originally set at 80 (24 for Ocean Park and 56 for Ngong Ping 360) per annum in 2006. In 2007, in view of the frequent service interruptions of the aerial ropeway of Ngong Ping 360, the number of inspections for this aerial ropeway was increased to 89, while that for Ocean Park remained unchanged. Hence, the total number of inspections for the two aerial ropeways in 2007 was 113. The increased workload was met by redeployment of existing manpower resources.
- (b) Since the re-opening of the aerial ropeway of Ngong Ping 360 on 31 December 2007, it has been operating in a reliable condition. The Department considers that the total number of inspections for the aerial ropeways at Ocean Park and Ngong Ping 360 could therefore be resumed to the 2006 planned level of 80 for 2008.

Signature  _____

Name in block letters _____ HO KWONG WAI _____

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services _____

Date _____ 27 March 2008 _____