

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

Head: 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead:
Department

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department mentioned that the estimated number of inspection of “aerial ropeways” in 2009 is 80, while the number of inspection in 2008 is 95 and that in year 2007 reached 113. Please advise :

- (a) whether the term “aerial ropeways” refers to the aerial ropeways in Ocean Park and Ngong Ping 360?
- (b) what are the number of inspection for the aerial ropeways in Ocean Park and Ngong Ping 360 in 2007 and 2008 respectively?
- (c) what is the reason for the decrease in the estimated number of inspections in 2009, and how to ensure the safety and reliability of the aerial ropeways?
- (d) what is the saving due to the decrease in the number of inspections?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

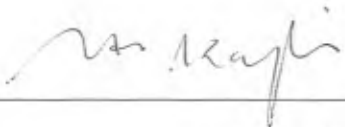
Reply:

- (a) The term “aerial ropeways” refers to both the aerial ropeway systems at Ocean Park and Ngong Ping 360.
- (b) The numbers of inspections of the aerial ropeways in Ocean Park in 2007 and 2008 are 24 and 26 respectively, and the numbers of inspections of Ngong Ping 360 in 2007 and 2008 are 89 and 69 respectively.
- (c) The estimated number of inspections for 2008 was set at a higher level because of the need to monitor the relatively new cable car system of Ngong Ping 360. During the period, the overall performance of the aerial ropeway of Ngong Ping 360 was stable. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has therefore planned to adjust the number of inspections in 2009. The total number of inspections of the aerial ropeways at Ocean Park and Ngong Ping 360 would be 24 and 56 respectively.

EMSD will continue to conduct regular surveillance inspections in connection with the operation and maintenance of the aerial ropeway, incident investigations and inspections for resuming ropeway operation after completion of major maintenance works; review the

performance of the ropeway system and maintain close liaison with the operating company on necessary improvement measures to ensure the smooth operation of the aerial ropeway system in Ngong Ping 360.

- (d) In 2007 and 2008, the workload arising from the increase in number of inspections was met by internal redeployment of manpower resources. Hence, there is no saving due to the adjustment in the number of inspections.

Signature  _____

Name in block letters _____ HO KWONG WAI _____

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services _____

Date _____ 19 March 2009 _____