

**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:

With reference to the indicators for inspections of lifts and escalators, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) will increase the number of inspections for lifts and escalators by 2 428 up to 9 930 in 2009-10. However, EMSD will only have an increase of 2 new posts in 2009-10. Please advise:

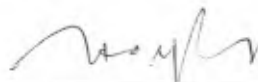
- (a) Would there be sufficient manpower to inspect the lifts and escalators in 2009-2010;
- (b) What is the expenditure and manpower for the stepping up of inspection and enforcement actions, public education and publicity efforts in 2009-10? Please list out the manpower and expenditure for each item of work.

Asked by: Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply:

- (a) The two new posts to be created in 2009-10 are on enhancement of railway safety. In regard to enhancement of lift and escalator safety, the Department will continue to step up the level of inspection from one-out-of-ten to one-out-of-seven, and the number of inspection of lifts and escalators in 2009-10 will be increased from 7 502 to 9 930. To achieve this target, Development Bureau has allocated additional resources to the Department to strengthen its lift and escalator inspection team.
- (b) For the stepping up of inspection and enforcement actions, an additional amount of \$3 million has been allocated by the Development Bureau in 2009-10 to cater for the additional manpower requirements of one engineer and seven inspectors. For the new initiatives on public education and publicity, the Department will deploy existing manpower resources to take on the additional workload.

Signature



Name in block letters

HO KWONG WAI

Post Title

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date

20 March 2009