

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12

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

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)110

Question Serial No.

2608

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 :

The number of lifts and escalators inspections in year of 2011 was lower than that of years 2009 and 2010. With numerous lift incidents, will the Administration consider to increase the number of inspections in order to ensure the safety of lifts and escalators? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

Since 2009, we have stepped up the level of inspection from one-out-of-ten to one-out-of-seven so as to enhance safety of lifts and escalators. The estimated number of inspections in 2011 (9 100 nos) is at the same level of inspection as in 2010 (9 107 nos), and both meet the one-out-of-seven inspection rate. The comparatively higher inspection number of 9 888 in 2009 as a result of additional lift inspections carried out for lifts under Tenants Purchase Scheme estates of the Housing Authority, which was successfully completed in 2009. In addition to stepping up inspection, other enhancement measures such as enhancing the code of practice for lift and escalator works, disclosure of contractor's performance, and enhancing publicity, have been gradually put in place to enhance lift and escalator safety in Hong Kong. Besides, we plan to introduce a Bill to repeal the existing Lifts and Escalators (Safety) Ordinance (Cap 327) to strengthen regulatory control over the safety of lifts.

Signature



Name in block letters

Chan Hung-Cheung, Stephen

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date

17 March 2011