

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB055

Question Serial No.

1022

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : (a) After the liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicle stalling incident in early 2010, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) strengthened the monitoring of operation, repair and maintenance of LPG filling stations. The number of inspections of filling stations was increased from 248 in 2009 to 275 in 2010. , What additional resources were required by the department to carry out the increased number of inspections?

(b) Though the number of inspections was increased, there was occasional recurrence of LPG vehicle stalling incidents. If the EMSD decreased the number of inspections in 2011 to 240 (i.e. the level of inspections in 2009), will the quality of LPG filling stations still be maintained? Apart from inspections, what other measures will be taken by the department to strengthen the monitoring of LPG filling stations? What are resources required?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

(a) The inspection of operation, repair and maintenance of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling station is undertaken by a team of engineers and inspectors. This team is responsible for a wide range of duties which also include other enforcement duties relating to LPG filling network, supporting infrastructure for LPG vehicles and revalidation of LPG vehicle fuel tanks. Following the LPG vehicle stalling incidents in early 2010, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has deployed internal resources to increase the number of inspections.

(b) In addition to the regular inspection of LPG filling stations, EMSD has put in place the LPG sampling scheme to monitor the LPG quality since early 2010 and has deployed additional resources to implement the scheme. The LPG sampling scheme will continue while the number of inspections of LPG filling stations in 2011 will return to the inspection level of 2009. The measures including the inspection to the filling stations and the LPG sampling scheme are considered adequate to monitor the operation and maintenance of the LPG filling stations.

Signature



Name in block letters

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date

15 March 2011