

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**DEVB(W)246****(Question Serial No. 4256)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question (Member Question No. 37):

There are over 60 000 lifts in Hong Kong, and their machinery and functional performance will have direct implication on passenger safety. In order to enable the public to have a better understanding, and the Legislative Council to more effectively monitor the existing mechanism in repair and maintenance of lifts, so as to enhance public confidence in using lifts, would the Administration please provide the following information:

(1) The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) introduced the lift contractors' performance rating system in 2009, with the contractors' non-compliant items classified into five categories. Please provide the quarterly figures for the past four years in the table below.

		2011				2012				2013				2014
Quarter		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1
Points Deducted	1-5													
	6-11													
	12 or above													
Warning Letters Issued	1													
	2													
	3 or above													
Removal from the Register														

(2) In the past three years, what are the figures of incidents involving injury and fatality for each registered contractor; and the penalties to the contractors due to contravention of the Ordinance?

(3) Please provide the numbers of inspections carried out, the numbers of registered engineers responsible for carrying out inspections, the expenditures of the concerned staff establishment for the past three years, and the increases in the manpower and expenditure due to the implementation of the Lifts and Escalators Ordinance.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

(1) Pursuant to the contractors' performance rating system of EMSD, the numbers of registered lift contractors with performance monitoring points deducted, warning letters issued, or removed from the Register in the past four years are given in Table 1 below.

Table 1

Number of contractors		2011				2012				2013				2014*
Quarter		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1
With performance points deducted	1-5	9	13	9	9	10	5	1	5	3	5	2	7	5
	6-11	9	16	11	13	10	10	8	9	12	16	9	15	12
	12 or above	1	1	2	0	2	4	2	1	2	0	0	1	1
With warning letters issued	1	2	4	1	6	6	5	3	1	2	1	0	1	3
	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
	3 or above	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Removed from the Register		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

*Figures are up to 28 February 2014

(2) In the past three years, there was no fatality case related to failure of equipment components in lifts. The numbers of cases related to failure of equipment components in lifts and involving injury are given in Table 2 below:

Table 2

Registered Lift Contractors	2011	2012	2013
Anlev Elex Elevator Ltd.	0	1	0
Chevalier (HK) Limited	2	1	2
Chun Ming Elevator Co. Ltd.	0	1	0
Holake Hong Kong Lifts Ltd.	1	0	0
Jekco Elevators Ltd.	1	1	0
KONE Elevator (HK) Ltd.	4	0	0
Nikkin Lifts & Escalators Ltd.	1	1	0
Otis Elevator Company (HK) Ltd.	3	3	0
Schindler Lifts (Hong Kong) Ltd	1	3	1
Sigma Elevator (HK) Ltd.	2	0	0

Shineford Engineering Ltd.*	0	1	1
The Express Lift Company Ltd.	0	1	0
Total	15	13	4

* Registration of Shineford Engineering Ltd. was cancelled with effect from 16 October 2013

In the past three years, there were a total of four prosecution cases and three disciplinary cases against the concerned registered lift contractors due to contravention of the Lifts and Escalators Ordinance. For the prosecution cases, the fines imposed ranged from \$2,000 to \$9,000. For the disciplinary action cases, the fines imposed ranged from \$50,000 to \$240,000. One registered contractor was removed from the Register in 2013 due to contravention of the Ordinance.

(3) EMSD adopts a risk-based approach to conduct sample audit inspections of lifts. The numbers of lift inspections carried out in 2011, 2012, and 2013 were 7 603, 7 875, and 9 258 respectively.

The team responsible for carrying out audit inspection and incident investigation comprises one Senior Engineer, three Engineers, one Senior Inspector and 18 Inspectors, with the total expenditures in the past three years summarised in Table 3 below.

Table 3

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14#
Expenditure (in \$ million)	14.3	15.1	20.2

#Estimated figure

The Lifts and Escalators Ordinance was implemented in December 2012. It is estimated that the expenditure in 2013-14 will increase by \$5.1 million as compared to 2012-13. In 2014-15, one Engineer, one Senior Inspector and eight Inspectors will be added to the team to carry out more lift and escalator inspections.