

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB065****(Question Serial No. 4982)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

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

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

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 632):

In the past five years, how many gas incidents were investigated by the Administration in each year and what are the ratios of the causes of these incidents? What were the expenses and manpower involved, and the follow-up actions taken and their effectiveness? Please provide information by year on the number of cases involving penalty, and the maximum and minimum penalties imposed.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) The numbers of gas incidents investigated over the past five years (from 2009 to 2013) were 392, 345, 420, 334 and 339 respectively.
- (b) These incidents basically fall into three categories – about 67% were related to gas pipe/cylinder/fitting faults, about 6% were related to careless or improper use of gas fittings, and the remaining 27% were found to be non-gas related.
- (c) Gas incident investigations were conducted by engineers and inspectors whose responsibilities also include such duties as inspection, public education and publicity. We do not have the breakdown of manpower or expenditure involved in incident investigation only.
- (d) Based on the analysis of gas incidents investigated, public education and publicity programmes as well as inspection plans are developed with the aim of enhancing gas safety. Gas safety publicity work will continue to be carried out in 2014 with a view to reducing the number of incidents.
- (e) The numbers of prosecutions and the resulting penalties in the past five years are shown in the following table:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Prosecutions</u>	<u>Maximum Penalty (\$)</u>	<u>Minimum Penalty (\$)</u>
2009	63	6,000	300
2010	31	7,500	400
2011	28	8,000	1,000
2012	41	5,000	500
2013	30	15,000	300