

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

**DEVB(W)116**

Question Serial No.

0423

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

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

- a. The Administration states that it will continue to step up inspection and enforcement actions on lifts and escalators in 2013-14, what are the detailed measures?
- b. The target percentage of lifts and escalators to be inspected by Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) in 2013 is 13.5%, which is lower than that of 15.3% in 2012. In view of the serious lift incident occurred in North Point on 2 March 2013, will the Administration increase the number of inspections?
- c. What is the manpower of EMSD for carrying out inspection and examination of lifts and escalators in Hong Kong? Will the manpower be increased correspondingly to cope with the increasing number of lifts in Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher

Reply:

- a. Apart from general enforcement activities including the approval of new lift and escalator models, investigation of incidents and handling of complaints, EMSD will increase the number of inspections for lifts and escalators in 2013-14, particularly for those maintained by contractors with lower performance rating. Disciplinary and prosecution actions will be taken by EMSD as necessary against any non-compliances identified during inspections.
- b. The Lifts and Escalators Ordinance (Cap. 618) is applicable to all lifts and escalators in Hong Kong, including those of the Government and the Housing Authority, thereby increasing the numbers of lifts and escalators subject to the statutory control from 52 000 to 60 000 lifts and 7 400 to 8 200 escalators respectively. This change has lowered EMSD's inspection ratio for lifts from 15.3% to 13.5%. That said, EMSD will increase the number of inspections from 9 173 in 2012 to 9 400 in 2013 for lifts and escalators, and as a follow-up to the North Point lift incident in March 2013, the department will review the risk elements for sampling of lifts and escalators for inspection such that more inspections

