

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

DEVB(W)122

Question Serial No.

1449

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:

In view of the increasing number of lifts and escalators under the control of the Lifts and Escalators Ordinance enacted in April 2012, and the extensive public concern on repeated occurrence of lift incidents in recent years, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) should have stepped up the inspection and enforcement works on lifts and escalators. In this connection, would the Administration please advise whether EMSD has increased the necessary resources and recruitment of professional staff, so as to enhance its regulatory role. If yes, please provide the details. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

The EMSD has adopted a risk-based approach to arrange audit inspections of lifts and escalators taking into account the age, type of installation, complaint, incident, change-over of maintenance contractors, and performance of contractors involved. EMSD has also conducted surprise checks to ensure that the services provided by the registered contractors, engineers and workers are up to standard requirements.

To enhance the regulation of lift and escalator safety, EMSD created one engineer, one senior inspector and six inspectors posts in 2010. Further, EMSD has deployed one Senior Engineer and one Engineer to cope with the additional work load arising from the implementation of the new Ordinance. EMSD will continue to review its enforcement procedures with a view to improving the overall effectiveness of its regulatory control on the lift safety.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013