

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

DEVB(W)123

Question Serial No.

1450

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 2012, the number of lifts and escalators inspections carried out by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) was 9 173. In this connection, would the Administration advise on the number of lifts involved and among them, how many lifts have reached the stage of compulsory replacement; has EMSD taken any appropriate follow up actions on such cases; if yes, please provide the details; if no, what are the reasons ?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

Among the 9 173 inspections carried out in 2012, 7 875 inspections were on lifts. The Lifts and Escalators Ordinance (Cap. 618) provides that the responsible person for a lift, irrespective of their years of service, must ensure that periodic maintenance works are carried out in respect of the lift at intervals of not exceeding a month; and must cause the lift and all its associated equipment or machinery to be thoroughly examined by a registered lift engineer at intervals of not exceeding a year. Any components of a lift that requires replacement should have been identified during the above-mentioned periodic maintenance and examination. In addition, the EMSD carries out audit inspections to lifts in Hong Kong to safeguard public safety. If any improvement works is considered necessary, EMSD will issue advisory letters to the responsible person of the lifts concerned and then follow up with them through to completion of the improvement items. Also, EMSD will not issue Use Permits to lifts that fail to meet the safety requirements, irrespective of their years of service. We trust the above control measures will help ensure that a lift will not reach a stage which will require compulsory replacement and jeopardize public safety.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
 Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013