

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

DEVB(W)114

Question Serial No.

3054

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 recent lift incident that caused a number of injuries, please advise:

- a. What are the current resources deployed by the Administration in conducting inspection and monitoring of lift safety? What are the manpower and workflow?
- b. Will the Administration consider reviewing the existing legislation in regulating lift safety? Is there sufficient deterrent effect? Is it effective in regulating and monitoring the safety level of lifts, so as to ensure the safety of general public in using lifts? If yes, please provide the details; if no, what are the reasons?
- c. In the past three years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13), what are the numbers of warnings or prosecutions/disciplinary actions against the lift maintenance contractors for failing to comply with the above legislation? What are the related penalties?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Han-pan

Reply:

- a. For monitoring lift and escalator safety, the team in the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) responsible for carrying out audit inspections for lifts and escalators comprises one Senior Engineer, three Engineers and 19 Inspectors. The estimated expenditure in this respect for 2013-14 is around \$15.9 million. EMSD adopts a risk-based approach to arrange audit inspections of lifts and escalators taking into account age, type of installation, complaint, incident, change-over of maintenance contractors, and performance of contractors involved. EMSD also conducts surprise checks to ensure that the services provided by the registered contractors, engineers and workers are up to the standard requirements. Warning letters will be issued to concerned parties for improvement if irregularities are found in the inspections. In case offences are found during inspections, EMSD will take appropriate enforcement and/or disciplinary actions against the parties concerned.

