

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(PL)395**

**(Question Serial No. 4860)**

Head: (91) Lands Department  
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified  
Programme: (1) Land Administration  
Controlling Officer: Director of Lands (Ms. Bernadette LINN)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question (Member Question No. 77):

How many disputes involving rural land (i.e. in relation to applications for building small houses) have been received by the Lands Department over the past five years? How long on average does it take for the Department to resolve a rural land dispute? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower required for handling this task in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

During the past five years (from 1 April 2009 to 28 February 2014), the Lands Department (Lands D) received and handled 90 cases concerning rural land dispute during the processing of small house applications. The time required by Lands D to handle a rural land dispute case varies significantly from case to case, depending on the nature and complexity of the issues involved. The work is handled by the staff concerned as part of their overall duties, and hence we are unable to provide a separate breakdown in respect of the specific expenditure and manpower involved solely for handling such cases.