

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 3596)

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:

What were the expenditure and manpower involved in inspections to identify any unlawful occupation of government land in the past five years? How many cases of unlawful occupation of government land were identified during routine inspections by the Lands Department in the past five years and what was their percentage share in the total number of cases of unlawful occupation of government land? What will be the estimated expenditure and manpower required for this task in 2016-17?

Asked by: Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 52)

Reply:

Conducting inspections of government sites is part of the overall government land control work carried out by the Lands Department (Lands D). During the past five calendar years (2011 to 2015), a total of 2 108 cases of unlawful occupation of government land were identified during routine inspection by Lands D. This represents about 5% of the total number of cases of unlawful occupation of government land handled by Lands D during the period.

In the past five financial years (2011-12 to 2015-16), an average of 212 staff were involved in land control work (which covered not only unlawful occupation of government land but also other duties such as grass cutting, tree management and displaying of roadside banners), involving an average staff expenditure of \$78 million per year. There is no separate breakdown in respect of the expenditure for conducting inspections of government sites.

In 2016-17, we estimate that a total of 206 posts involving an estimated staff cost of \$87 million will be deployed mainly to take up land control work.

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