

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)301

(Question Serial No. 4136)

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:

Will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) What will be the annual expenditure on salaries of the Director of Lands in 2017-18?
- (2) Nearly 1 740 hectares of land were granted for short term tenancies (STTs) in 2015 and 2016 according to the Indicators under this Programme. Among the land granted for STTs, will the Government list in table form the locations and areas of the sites granted by way of STTs to those unlawfully occupying land, and the terms of tenancies in each of the past five years?
- (3) What will be the estimated annual salary expenditure of the Land Control and Lease Enforcement Section in 2017-18?
- (4) What will be the estimated annual salary expenditure of the Acquisition Section in 2017-18?
- (5) What will be the estimated annual salary expenditure of the District Lands Office, Yuen Long in 2017-18?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. 70)

Reply:

- (1) The annual salary provision for the Director of Lands for 2017-18 is \$2,950,200.
- (2) In 2012 to 2016, the Lands Department issued a total of 399 short term tenancies (STTs) for regularisation of unlawful occupation of government land distributed across nine District Lands Offices. The total area covered by such STTs issued each year is tabulated below:

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Approximate total area (in hectares)	1.03	0.61	1.00	2.47	1.68

STTs are normally granted for a fixed term of not more than five years and thereafter monthly or quarterly. If, upon expiry of the fixed terms, the sites concerned are not immediately required for permanent or other temporary uses, those STTs let by direct grant may generally continue on a monthly or quarterly basis. The STTs will be terminated at an appropriate time to tie in with the long-term use identified for the site or another temporary use which should be given priority in the light of changing circumstances. The users of the direct grant STTs included in the table above mainly cover private gardens, open/covered storages, workshops and shops.

- (3) In 2017-18, the estimated annual salary expenditure of the Land Control and Lease Enforcement Section is about \$15 million.
- (4) The estimated annual salary expenditure of the Acquisition Section in 2017-18 is about \$29 million.
- (5) The estimated annual salary expenditure in 2017-18 for District Lands Office, Yuen Long is about \$125 million.

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