

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)306

(Question Serial No. 6816)

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:

- 1) How many cases of suspected unauthorised felling or damage of trees on government land and on private land were received by the Lands Department in 2016?
- 2) Of the above, how many were confirmed cases? In respect of private land, how many cases were confirmed to be in breach of the tree preservation clause under lease upon investigation, and what follow-up actions were taken by the Department?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (Member Question No. 134)

Reply:

Three cases of suspected unauthorised felling or damage of trees were received by the Lands Department (Lands D) in 2016 and they were all confirmed after investigation. The trees concerned were all within private lots in respect of which the relevant leases contained a tree preservation clause. Lands D has issued warning letters to the relevant private lot owners. Justifications for the unauthorised felling/trimming given by the private lot owners in two cases are being considered by Lands D. The private lot owner in the remaining case has applied for retrospective approval for the unauthorised tree-felling. Lands D has approved the application subject to the owner paying a premium and administrative fee as well as carrying out compensatory replanting.

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