

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)359

(Question Serial No. 3936)

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:

Please inform this Committee of the following:

- 1) the number of cases of unauthorised structures on private agricultural land handled by the Lands Department in the past three years;
- 2) the number of enforcement actions, the number of structures removed by the owners as required, and the number of those removed by the Government as mentioned in item 1);
- 3) the details of prosecutions instituted and convictions regarding item 1).

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (Member Question No. 105)

Reply:

The relevant statistics regarding lease enforcement actions taken against unauthorised structures on private agricultural land by the Lands Department (Lands D) in the last three calendar years (2014 to 2016) are as follows:

Calendar Year	2014	2015	2016
(a) Number of cases of unauthorised structures on private agricultural land identified ^(Note)	810	686	751
(b) Number of cases involving enforcement actions ^(Note) (which may take the form of issue of warning letters/statutory notices; registration of warning letters in the Land Registry; re-entry and/or vesting) taken against unauthorised structures on private agricultural land	665	1 021	1 397
(c) Number of cases with unauthorised structures demolished by the owners ^(Note)	125	211	211
(d) Number of cases with unauthorised structures demolished by Lands D ^(Note)	15	4	9

Note: The cases processed in a year may not necessarily correspond to the cases identified in the same year. Each case may involve more than one private lot and/or structure.

Given that a land lease is a private contract enforced by Lands D in its capacity as the landlord and a party to the contract, no prosecution under any legislation is involved.

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