

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****DEVB(PL)192****(Question Serial No. 0871)**

Head: (91) Lands Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Land Administration

Controlling Officer: Director of Lands (Thomas CHAN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Regarding small house applications and their control, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (1) The number of cases to which approval was given for removing the alienation restrictions (ARs) in each of the past five years (2014 to 2018);
- (2) The numbers of complaints received about the illegal development of small houses (including the selling of "ding" rights) and the follow-up actions taken by the Department in the past three years.

Asked by: Hon WAN Siu-kin, Andrew (LegCo internal reference no.: 45)

Reply:

- (1) The number of applications for removal of restriction on alienation of small house approved by the Lands Department (LandsD) in the past five years (2014 to 2018) is set out below:

Year	Number of approved applications for removal of restriction on alienation of small house
2014	577
2015	462
2016	409
2017	435
2018	329

- (2) In the past three years (from 2016 to 2018), LandsD received 1 451 complaints about suspected cases of indigenous villagers selling their rights to apply for and build small houses. So far, 133 of these cases have been referred to law enforcement agencies for criminal investigation after completion of initial examination by LandsD.

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