

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)323

(Question Serial No. 4863)

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:

Please provide figures for the past five years with regard to the following:

- (1) The number of small houses in the territory and estimated areas of land occupied;
- (2) The respective numbers of applications for building small houses pending and under processing;
- (3) The number of indigenous households and their household size, as well as the number of persons with small house rights in Hong Kong.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 1402)

Reply:

- (1) The number of small house grants made by the Lands Department (LandsD) in the past five years (2014 to 2018) is 3 993. While we do not have readily available statistics on the number of small houses existing in the territory, the number of small house grants made since the introduction of the policy in 1972 is 42 987. LandsD has no readily available information on the total area of land involved for the small house grants.
- (2) As at end of December 2018, the number of small house applications being processed was 8 223 and the number of applications pending processing was 2 574.
- (3) LandsD has no information on the household population of the New Territories indigenous community. Nor has LandsD kept information on the number of indigenous villagers eligible for making small house applications in Hong Kong. This is because the information is fluid and may not serve as a reliable reference, as the number of eligible indigenous villagers who are 18 years old or above in recognised villages would change with the birth, growth and passing away of

indigenous villagers. In addition, the number of eligible indigenous villagers may not necessarily be a reliable reflection of the demand for building small houses as the intention to apply for and timing of application for building small houses depend on individual circumstances of the villagers concerned.

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