

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****DEVB(PL)332****(Question Serial No. 5641)**

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 inform this Committee of the following: (a) Of the nearly 200 000 surveyed structures inspected by the Government in each of the past two years, what were their respective percentages in the total numbers of surveyed structures across the territory in the period? (b) In what ways does the Government carry out an “inspection”? Does it refer to site inspection? Please list the respective numbers of inspections with a breakdown by mode of inspection in the past five years. (c) Please list the respective numbers of inspections carried out by the Government with a breakdown by mode of inspection and District Council district in the past five years. (d) Which types of structures are included in the surveyed structures according to the inspections? Do they also include those structures registered under small houses in the New Territories? What were the staff establishment and expenditures involved in the “inspections” over the past two years?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 2058)

Reply:

(a) The inspection rates on surveyed squatter structures in 2017 and 2018 are listed below.

Year	Total Number of Surveyed Squatter Structures Inspected	Total Number of Surveyed Squatter Structures	Percentage
2017	199 697	385 745	51.8%
2018	196 771	384 104	51.2%

(b) The term “inspected” refers to on-site visual inspections of the surveyed domestic and non-domestic squatter structures along the patrol routes. In the past five years (from 2014 to 2018), the total number of inspections conducted are set out in the tables below.

Year	Number of inspections conducted
2014	18 947
2015	18 370
2016	18 932
2017	18 299
2018	18 365

- (c) In the past five years (from 2014 to 2018), the respective number of inspections conducted by staff in seven regional Squatter Control Offices (SCOs) of the Lands Department (LandsD), viz. (i) Hong Kong and Lei Yue Mun (HK&LYM) Office, (ii) Kowloon, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing (K, TW&KT) Office, (iii) Islands (Is) Office, (iv) New Territories East(1) (NTE1) Office, (v) New Territories East(2) (NTE2) Office, (vi) New Territories West(1) (NTW1) Office and (vii) New Territories West(2) (NTW2) Office are set out in the tables below.

Year	Number of inspections conducted						
	SCO						
	HK &LYM	K, TW &KT	Is	NTE1	NTE2	NTW1	NTW2
2014	1 744	2 987	1 202	3 330	3 287	3 394	3 003
2015	1 938	2 952	1 171	2 968	3 335	2 690	3 316
2016	2 291	3 024	1 350	3 025	3 064	2 948	3 230
2017	2 169	2 987	1 205	3 099	3 085	2 648	3 106
2018	2 277	2 497	1 131	3 082	3 098	3 259	3 021

Note: LandsD does not have breakdown by District Council boundary.

- (d) The inspections focus on detecting, preventing and deterring new extension to surveyed squatter structures and new unauthorised building and rebuilding works. Site inspections in the context of squatter control do not cover small houses as they are not squatter structures. The establishments of the SCOs are 415 and 416 in 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively. As site inspections are conducted by existing staff in SCOs as part of their overall duties, we are unable to provide a breakdown of the resources deployed solely for site inspections.

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