

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)350

(Question Serial No. 3580)

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 matters on the management of government land, please inform this Committee of:

- (a) The staff establishment for conducting inspections of government land in the past three years (2016-17 to 2018-19).
- (b) The figures on unlawful occupation of government land identified by the Government in the past three years (2016-17 to 2018-19).
- (c) The respective figures on prosecution by the Government and successful conviction in the past three years (2016-17 to 2018-19), and the highest and lowest fine imposed respectively upon conviction.
- (d) The staff establishment and expenditure involved in public education and publicity.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 49)

Reply:

- (a) Conducting inspections of government sites forms part of the overall government land control work carried out by the Lands Department (LandsD). In the past three financial years (2016-17 to 2018-19), an average of 227 staff were involved in land control work.
- (b) In the past three calendar years (2016 to 2018), there were 12 011, 11 295 and 10 731 cases respectively (including those referred by other government departments or identified by LandsD during inspections) having been confirmed to involve unlawful occupation of government land.

- (c) LandsD may pursue prosecution action when unlawful occupation does not cease following the issue of statutory notices. In the past three calendar years (2016 to 2018), 34, 27 and 21 prosecutions were instituted respectively for unlawful occupation of government land. Among them, 33, 22 and 20 of them were convicted respectively and the fines ranged from \$500 to \$378,000.
- (d) LandsD does not have readily available breakdown on expenditure for land control related public education and publicity.

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