

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(W)229**

**(Question Serial No. 3889)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): Not Specified

Programme: (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

- (1) Regarding the grading confirmation of historic buildings, how many items are still pending? How long will it take to complete the related work?
- (2) Did the Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB) note and agree on the alteration, addition and demolition of all graded historic buildings in the past two years? How many cases were involved? If not, why was AAB not being notified or consulted?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 382)

Reply:

- (1) As at March 2016, the Antiquities Advisory Board (AAB) has finalised the grading of 1 333 buildings, including 1 241 from the original list of 1 444 buildings and 92 from the list of 233 new items suggested by the public. As the grading exercise involves a series of processes, including detailed studies and research, site inspections, discussions with owners/stakeholders (e.g. clarifying the status of the buildings concerned, handling objections, etc.) and so on, AAB has adopted a "step-by-step" approach and has not set a specific deadline for the completion of the exercise.
- (2) In accordance with Development Bureau (DEVB) Technical Circular (Works) No. 6/2009, a heritage impact assessment (HIA) is required if a government capital works project may affect a declared monument or graded building. AAB will be asked to comment and advise on the findings of the HIA. In the past two years, a total of eight projects having undergone the HIA process have been brought up to AAB for consultation. As for private development projects, the Buildings Department, Lands Department and Planning Department will alert the Commissioner for Heritage's Office of DEVB and the Antiquities and Monuments Office on any demolition of or alterations to monuments/proposed monuments or graded buildings/buildings proposed to be graded that have been brought to the departments' attention through

applications and enquiries received as well as regular inspections. AAB will then be alerted as appropriate.

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