

**Letterhead of THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION WORKS BUREAU**

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9 October, 1998

Clerk to Panel
Panel on Planning, Lands & Works
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Hong Kong
(Attn: Miss Becky Yu)

Dear Miss Yu,

LegCo Panel on Planning, Lands and Works

Further to my letter of 11 August 1998, I have obtained information on the outstanding points as depicted in paragraphs 22 and 25 of the draft minutes of meeting.

Since the Buildings Ordinance (Chapter 123 of the Hong Kong Law) was revised in 1980 to include the provision of issuing Dangerous Hillside Orders, and up to 30 June 1998, a total number of 885 Orders was issued. Of these Orders, 349 are discharged; 121 are in default and taken over by the Building Authority for carrying out the repair works; and the remaining 415 are pending actions by the concerned owners

The Government will have deployed, within this year, about 400 government and consultants' staff together with about 850 staff employed by various contractors engaged by the Government in dealing with the maintenance works of government slopes. Currently, our maintenance works are mainly concentrated on carrying out Engineer Inspections (i.e. inspections undertaken by professional geotechnical engineers) on those old slopes identified in our new slope cataloguing exercise, which will be followed by slope repair works to be implemented by contractors. Therefore, these figures are expected to increase in the next year as more contracts are let and more new posts are created for slope maintenance.

As regards paragraph 19 of the draft minutes of meeting, this Bureau has been in contact with the Education and Manpower Bureau and the latest position is that the Administration is still considering the details of providing financial assistance to private schools owners in tackling their slope rectification works. The Secretary for Education and Manpower will advise you direct once the details of the proposal are firmed up.

Should you require any further information, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

(W S Chan)
for Secretary for Works