

香港特別行政區政府

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

房屋及規劃地政局

香港花園道美利大廈
九樓**Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau**9/F, Murray Building
Garden Road, Hong Kong

本局檔號 Our Ref. HPLB (B) 68/02/03 Pt. 10

電話 Tel.: 2848 6007

來函檔號 Your Ref. CB(3)/DC/WTS/05

傳真 Fax : 2899 2916

24 October 2005

Legislative Council Secretariat
 Legislative Council Building
 8 Jackson Road
 Central
 Hong Kong
 (Attn: Ms Dora Wai)
 (Fax: 2810 1691/2537 1204)

Dear Ms Wai,

**Legislative Council Members' Meeting-cum-Luncheon with
 Wong Tai Sin District Council Members on 10 November 2005**

**Removal of unauthorized building works
 and illegal rooftop structures**

Thank you for your letter to the Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands dated 7 October 2005. I am authorized to provide you the response below:

BD's actions taken against UBWs in Wong Tai Sin district

BD has taken a series of actions against the Unauthorized Building Works (UBWs) and illegal rooftop structures in private buildings in Wong Tai Sin. From 2001 onwards, BD has designated a total of 200 buildings with UBWs in the district as target buildings in their large scale clearance operations and removal orders were served to owners. Regarding the UBWs in the district, BD has issued 2200 removal orders to relevant owners in the past three years, and the owners in 1510 cases have complied with the orders and removed the relevant UBWs. For the remaining 690 owners who have not complied with the orders and have not provided any reasonable

excuse, BD will consider initiating prosecution against them.

Since rooftops on single staircase buildings mostly pose as the fire escape exits of the buildings, BD has accorded priority to the removal of UBWs erected on rooftops of these buildings. In the past three years, BD has issued 120 removal orders to the owners of illegal rooftop structures in single staircase buildings in the district, of which 110 owners have complied with the orders and removed the relevant UBWs accordingly. For owners who have not complied with the removal orders and have not provided any reasonable excuse, BD will consider initiating prosecution against them.

Regarding the incident involving the falling of a part of an illegal rooftop structure in San Po Kong on 9 May, BD has issued removal orders to concerned owners on 21 July requiring them to remove illegal rooftop structures on the subject building since the structures constitute imminent danger to public safety. If the owners do not comply with the orders, BD will consider initiating prosecution against them, and carry out the removal works and then recover the costs involved. BD will also continue to put other rooftop structures in the district under surveillance to ensure public safety.

Existing Policy

There are now more than 650,000 UBWs in Hong Kong. In view of the large number of UBWs and limited resources, the Government has developed a prioritized enforcement policy against UBWs. Priority will be given to tackle items constituting obvious or imminent danger to life or property, new items and items that constitute a serious hazard or serious environmental nuisance. To strengthen the work of BD in this area, BD has been allocated \$830 million over a period of five years beginning from 2006/07 to further tackle UBWs and to step up enforcement work.

(Ms Agnes Ho)
for Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

c.c. D of Buildings (Attn: Mr S T Lam)
AA/SHPL