



**Occupational Safety and Health (Headquarters)
Labour Department**

勞工處職業安全及健康(總部)

Your reference 來函編號 :

Our reference 本處檔案編號 : (2) in LD OSHB 1-55/8 (2017-18)

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7 November 2017

Miss Betty MA
Clerk to the Panel on Manpower
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Miss MA,

Reply to the Panel on Manpower on follow-up actions

The Panel on Manpower discussed various matters concerning occupational safety and health (“OSH”) at the meetings on 20 June 2017 and 18 July 2017. The Labour Department (“LD”)’s response is as follows:-

Meeting on 20 June 2017

Statistics on occupational injuries of outsourced workers engaged by different bureaux/government departments

2. Under the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (Cap. 509), an employer (including contractors of the Government’s outsourced services) must, so far as reasonably practicable, ensure his/her employees’ OSH at work. Employers, whether or not they are undertaking work outsourced by government departments, are all subject to the Ordinance. LD does not keep separate statistics on workers injured when engaged in outsourced government work.

Prosecution figures on breaching of the OSH legislation among public works projects and private developments arising from the special enforcement operations conducted in March and April 2017

3. During the special enforcement operations conducted in March and April 2017, LD initiated 307 prosecutions against breaching of the OSH legislation. The number of prosecutions relating to public works projects and private developments was 49 and 258 respectively.

Number of frontline Occupational Safety Officers (“OSOs”) engaged to ensure work safety of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (“HZMB”) local related projects in the past six months

4. At present, LD deploys eight frontline OSOs to undertake regular inspections at HZMB local related projects and necessary enforcement actions. As and when necessary and in line with our risk-based enforcement approach, additional OSO colleagues are drafted in to complement the team. For instance, in light of the serious industrial accident that happened on 29 March 2017, LD temporarily deployed six OSOs to assist in the follow-up actions.

Statistics on dispute of self-employment for work injury compensation claims in the past year

5. In 2016, the Employees’ Compensation Division (“ECD”) of LD received 55 employees’ compensation cases involving dispute over whether the injured person was an employee or a self-employed person. Out of these cases, the dispute of self-employment was resolved in 24 cases (43.6%) after the follow-up of ECD; the injured persons in 29 cases (52.7%) sought/would seek adjudication by the Court under the Employees’ Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 282); and the remaining two cases (3.6%) were being followed up by ECD.

Meeting on 18 July 2017

Proportion of teachers and social workers suffering from work-related emotional disorders, if available

6. LD does not have the relevant statistics.

Number of new cases involving lower limb illnesses in the clinical consultations of the two occupational health clinics in 2016 and among which how many of them are work-related

7. In 2016, a total of 1 720 new patients sought consultation at LD's occupational health clinics. 491 (28.5%) suffered from lower limb musculoskeletal diseases. Among them, 458 (93.3%) were related to or aggravated by work, while the remaining 33 (6.7%) were unrelated to work.

Number of inspections to construction sites for the purpose of heat stroke prevention and relevant enforcement figures in 2016

8. In 2016, 20 386 concerned inspections were conducted to construction sites, with 80 warnings and one Improvement Notice issued and one prosecution initiated. Most of the warnings were issued to contractors for failing to conduct risk assessments on heat stress to workers and/or to implement proper control measures to prevent workers from suffering heat stroke at work.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Queenie TANG)
for Commissioner for Labour

c.c. Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Attn: Mr Nicholas CHAN)