

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**TLB041**

**(Question Serial No. 0977)**

Head: (100) Marine Department  
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified  
Programme: (4) Services to Ships  
Controlling Officer: Director of Marine (Mr S.F. WONG)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Logistics

Question:

Regarding the initial and periodical safety inspections for locally-licensed and river trade vessels, please advise on:

- (a) the annual numbers of initial and periodical safety inspections required to be carried out (please list out the respective numbers for the 4 classes of vessels or other types of vessels) in the past 3 years (2021-22 to 2023-24);
- (b) the annual numbers of initial and periodical safety inspections entrusted to the Government (please list out the respective numbers for the 4 classes of vessels or other types of vessels) in the past 3 years (2021-22 to 2023-24); and
- (c) the staffing involved in conducting the above safety inspections and the average number of cases handled by each officer annually in the past 3 years (2021-22 to 2023-24).

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 30)

Reply:

Safety inspections for Class I vessels (i.e. passenger-carrying vessels), Class II vessels which carry dangerous goods and large-sized Class IV vessels are required to be conducted by either Marine Department (MD) officers or recognised classification societies, while safety inspections for other vessels can be conducted by either MD officers, recognised classification societies or authorised surveyors in the private organisations.

- (a)(i) The numbers of locally-licensed vessels (including river trade vessels) requiring initial safety inspections in the past 3 years are set out as follows:

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Class I Vessels	10	9	2
Class II Vessels	66	42	26
Class III Vessels	36	27	35
Class IV Vessels	7	5	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>74</b>

- (ii) The numbers of locally-licensed vessels (including river trade vessels) requiring periodical safety inspections in the past 3 years are set out as follows:

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Class I Vessels	401	403	403
Class II Vessels	1 718	1 571	1 469
Class III Vessels	1 813	998*	1 737 <sup>#</sup>
Class IV Vessels	77	73	69
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 009</b>	<b>3 045</b>	<b>3 678</b>

\* There was a reduction in the number of fishing vessels inspected in 2022 when compared to that in 2021 as the Hong Kong authorised surveyors conducting inspections in the Mainland no longer provided services in 2022.

<sup>#</sup> There was an increase in the number of fishing vessels inspected in 2023 when compared to that in 2022 as since September 2022 MD has authorised surveyors of the recognised fishing vessel inspection organisations in the Mainland to conduct inspections for Hong Kong mobile fishing vessels .

- (b)(i) The numbers of locally-licensed vessels (including river trade vessels) whose initial safety inspections were conducted by MD in the past 3 years are set out as follows:

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Class I Vessels	1	0	1
Class II Vessels	3	1	1
Class III Vessels	9	8	11
Class IV Vessels	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>13</b>

- (ii) The numbers of locally-licensed vessels (including river trade vessels) whose periodical safety inspections were conducted by MD in the past 3 years are set out as follows:

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Class I Vessels	390	386	372
Class II Vessels	409	358	300
Class III Vessels	457	278	371
Class IV Vessels	54	47	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 310</b>	<b>1 069</b>	<b>1 083</b>

- (c) Safety inspections detailed in the tables in (b) above are conducted by 20 ship surveyors and ship inspectors of the Local Vessels Safety Section of MD. The average number of cases handled by each officer annually is 66 in 2021, 54 in 2022 and 55 in 2023.

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