<u>Eighteen building plans approved in April</u>

The Buildings Department approved 18 building plans in April, with five on Hong Kong Island, four in Kowloon and nine in the New Territories.

Of the approved plans, seven were for apartment and apartment/commercial developments, five were for commercial developments, two were for factory and industrial developments, and four were for community services developments.

In the same month, consent was given for works to start on 13 building projects which, when completed, will provide 83 517 square metres of gross floor area for domestic use involving 1 813 units, and 185 747 sq m of gross floor area for non-domestic use. The department has received notification of commencement of superstructure works for eight building projects.

The department also issued 20 occupation permits, with four on Hong Kong Island, seven in Kowloon and nine in the New Territories.

Of the buildings certified for occupation, the gross floor area for domestic use was 65 772 sq m involving 1 545 units, and 178 009 sq m was for non-domestic use.

The declared cost of new buildings completed in April totalled about \$7.4 billion.

In addition, five demolition consents involving five building structures were issued.

The department received 3 509 reports about unauthorised building works (UBWs) in April and issued 1 490 removal orders on UBWs.

The full version of the Monthly Digest for April can be viewed on the Buildings Department's homepage (www.bd.gov.hk).