Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HWFB(FE)12 9

Question Serial No.

1774

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Question:

Given our long coastline, a large amount of live fish without health certificates can still be smuggled into Hong Kong for human consumption. Please advise on whether resources and manpower will be increased for the sampling of live fish taken from vessels and vehicles importing fish to Hong Kong, wholesale fish markets and retail outlets. If so, what are the details? If not, what are reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

In 2007-08, 28 additional Health Inspector grade posts will be created to strengthen food import control work at various sea, land and airport border points, including inspection and enforcement of importation of live freshwater fish through improper channels.

Signature	
Name in block letters	EDDY CHAN
Post Title	Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene
Date	15.3.2007