Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HWFB(FE)18

Question Serial No.

2638

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:

Regarding the target for "inspecting vehicles carrying vegetables at Man Kam To Food Control Office", please advise on whether additional resources and manpower will be deployed to various control points for inspection of imported vegetables to combat smuggling of vegetables from the Mainland. If so, what are the manpower and resources involved?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

Financial provision has been included in the 2007-08 Estimate for the creation of 28 additional Health Inspector grade posts to reinforce staff deployment at frontier control points with a view to enhancing imported food inspection services, including checking importation of vegetables not coming from registered farms in the Mainland. The amount of financial provision allocated for inspection of imported vegetables to combat smuggling of vegetables from the Mainland is not separately identifiable.

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