

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FHB(FE)122**

Question Serial No.

2375

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

In what ways will the Administration strengthen its management of cremation and burial facilities so as to cope with the increasing demand for mortuaries and columbaria? Will additional resources (viz. manpower and facilities) be provided? If yes, please give details of the plan concerned and the amount of expenditure involved. If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

To cope with the increased demand for cremation during peak seasons, we will schedule the maintenance programme to avoid maintenance works during those periods so that cremators are put in full operation and if necessary, additional cremation sessions will be arranged.

The Department is planning to re-build the Wo Hop Shek Crematorium and the Cape Collinson Crematorium to provide for eight and 10 new cremators respectively. The details including expenditure and manpower are being worked out.

The construction of 3 200 niches in the Kwai Chung Columbarium and another 18 500 in the Diamond Hill Columbarium at a cost of \$14.8 million and \$113.6 million respectively are due for completion in 2008 – 09. The management of these new facilities will be absorbed by existing resources. We plan to build new columbarium facilities providing for some 30 000 niches and a Garden of Remembrance at the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery for completion by around 2012.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ **W H CHEUK**

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of  
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 20.3.2008

