

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

FHB(FE)089

Question Serial No.

Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title):

1961

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

As a small and densely populated city, cremation is becoming increasingly popular in Hong Kong, with a very keen public demand for columbaria facilities. Please inform this Committee of any plans and projects by the Department in taking forward the provision of more crematoria and columbaria facilities. Please also advise on the details of these plans and projects, including the time frame of and expenditure involved in individual plans/projects.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply:

The Wo Hop Shek Crematorium will be reprovisioned at an estimated cost of \$686.3 million for constructing six coffin cremators and other ancillary facilities. Works has commenced in July 2009 for completion in end 2011 / early 2012. The Cape Collinson Crematorium will also be reprovisioned at an estimated cost of \$696.3 million to provide for ten coffin cremators and other ancillary facilities. Works would commence in July 2010 for completion in two phases in early 2012 and late 2014 respectively.

Besides, the construction of a new public columbarium with about 41 000 niches and a Garden of Remembrance in the Wo Hop Shek Cemetery, at an estimated cost of \$629.5 million, is underway for completion in mid 2012. In addition, the Administration is pursuing the construction of columbarium facilities in vacant land burial ground in Wo Hop Shek and will continue to identify suitable sites in other districts for columbarium development.

Signature _____

Name in block letters W H CHEUK

Post Title Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 15.3.2010