

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

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

FHB(FE)096

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

Question Serial No.

0970

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Will the Department consider offering more rental concessions for markets with low patronage in 2010-11? Please advise on the reasons.

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

The rental of public market stalls was reduced across-the-board by 30% in 1998 and has since been frozen at that level. To improve the occupancy rate in public markets, the Department has implemented a concessionary rental scheme since February 2009, whereby the upset auction prices are reduced to 60% and 80% of the Open Market Rental for stalls vacant for more than eight months and six months respectively. As at 28 February 2010, about 1 180 long standing vacant stalls have been successfully let out under the scheme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

W H CHEUK

Post Title _____

Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date _____

15.3.2010