Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)204

Question Serial No.

3434

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:

Please advise on the number of dead bodies handled and the usage rate of cremators in each of the crematorium under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in the past three years (i.e. in 2010, 2011 and 2012); and whether additional resources will be allocated and measures will be taken to increase the existing handling capacity of various crematoria in 2013; if yes, please give the details and estimated expenditure to be involved; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

ı	2010			2011			2012		
Name of Crematoriu m	No. of crematio n sessions released	No. of crematio n sessions booked	% of crematio n sessions booked	No. of crematio n sessions released	No. of cremation sessions booked	% of crematio n sessions booked	No. of crematio n sessions released	No. of crematio n sessions booked	% of crematio n sessions booked
Cape Collinson	14 679	13 937	94.9%	14 514	13 640	94.0%	14 308	13 496	94.3%
Diamond Hill	9 197	9 131	99.3%	9 048	8 943	98.8%	8 839	8 807	99.6%
Fu Shan	7 393	7 346	99.4%	7 090	7 058	99.5%	7 901	7 879	99.7%
Kwai Chung	7 485	7 455	99.6%	8 193	8 143	99.4%	9 202	9 152	99.5%
Cheung Chau	1 536	137	8.9%	2 086	132	6.3%	2 067	160	7.7%
Wo Hop Shek (Note 1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total:	40 290	38 006	94.3%	40 931	37 916	92.6%	42 317	39 494	93.3%

Note 1: Closed since June 2009 for reprovisioning work.

(b) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is upgrading the cremators by phases to increase their handling capacity. The reprovisioning of the Wo Hop Shek Crematorium at an estimated cost of \$686.3 million for constructing six new cremators and other ancillary facilities has been completed in January 2013 and commissioned for use by phases since February 2013. The reprovisioning of the Cape Collinson Crematorium to construct ten new cremators and ancillary facilities in two phases, at an estimated cost of \$696.3 million, is underway. Phase I of the reprovisioning work with 4 new cremators has been completed in January 2013 and commissioned for use by phases since February 2013. Phase II of the reprovisioning work covering the remaining six cremators has started in March 2013 and is expected to complete in December 2015. With the completion of the above projects, the number of scheduled cremation sessions per annum will be increased by 34.8% from 39 180 in 2008 (before the Wo Hop Shek crematorium was closed for reprovisioning work) to 52 800 in 2016.

Name in block letters:	Clement LEUNG				
	Director of				

Post Title: Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date: 28.3.2013