

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

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Head: 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Under this programme, the Department will continue the laboratory analysis of the first Total Diet Study in Hong Kong to assess the risks of various food hazards. In this connection, please advise on the progress and details of the analysis, as well as the manpower and estimated expenditure to be involved.

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

The First Hong Kong Total Diet Study (TDS) commenced in March 2010 and will be completed in 2014. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) has commissioned the Chinese University of Hong Kong to carry out the fieldwork of the TDS which includes food sampling and preparation of food samples, at a contract value of about \$1.24 million. The fieldwork was completed in February 2011.

CFS performed laboratory analysis on over 130 substances, including persistent organic pollutants, pesticide residues, metallic contaminants, processing contaminants, mycotoxins, other contaminants and nutrients in food samples. The laboratory analysis was undertaken by existing staff of CFS and the Government Laboratory. The expenses incurred by CFS are therefore absorbed internally. While the whole study will be completed in 2014, CFS has been releasing the study findings by phases. As of March 2013, five reports covering "Dioxins and Dioxin-like Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)", "Inorganic Arsenic", "Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDEs)", "Pesticide Residues" and "Metallic Contaminants" respectively, have been released and are available on CFS's website. The TDS is progressing on course in accordance with the schedule.

Name in block letters: Clement LEUNG

Post Title: Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date: 8.4.2013