

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)119

(Question Serial No. 0886)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control
Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health
This question originates from: Estimates on Expenditure Volume I Page 252 (if applicable)

Question (Member Question No. 24):

Regarding the efforts against illegal hawking of unlicensed hawkers, please provide information on the following:

- (a) the number of warnings issued and prosecutions instituted against illegal hawking of unlicensed hawkers, the locations involved as well as the nature of these cases in 2013-14; and
- (b) whether new measures will be put in place or additional manpower or resources be allocated to step up raids at unlicensed hawker blackspots.

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yin, Steven

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

- (a) In 2013, the number of prosecutions instituted against illegal hawking activities, including street obstruction, illegal hawking and sale of cooked food / restricted food, was 29 243. Further detailed breakdown is not readily available. We do not keep statistics on the number of warnings issued.
- (b) With its existing manpower resources, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to adopt the strategies of mobile patrol and raiding to deter unlicensed hawking. Hawker Control Team (HCT) staff regularly patrol blackspots to deter illegal hawking activities and to prevent unlicensed hawkers from taking root at these locations. If the hawkers persist in trading and do not disperse, arrest action would follow. To enhance the deterrent effect, HCT staff also mount raiding operations at blackspots to arrest unlicensed hawkers and seize their goods and equipment.