

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)142

(Question Serial No. 1604)

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 253 (if applicable)

Question (Member Question No. 41):

Regarding the control of licensed hawkers and enforcement against unlicensed hawkers, please provide information on the following in respect of the years between 2008 and 2013:

- a. the number of unlicensed hawkers in each of the above years;
- b. the respective numbers of convicted prosecution cases involving licensed hawkers and unlicensed hawkers in each of the above years;
- c. the respective reasons for prosecutions against licensed hawkers and unlicensed hawkers who were subsequently convicted in each of the above years, as well as their percentage share; and
- d. given that a certain number of raids are conducted by Hawker Control Teams each year, the effectiveness of these raids in reducing the number of unlicensed hawkers and in controlling licensed hawkers (taking the year 2013 as an example).

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Puk-sun, Michael

Reply:

- a. The information sought is provided at Annex I.
- b. The information sought is provided at Annex II.
- c. Prosecutions instituted against licensed hawkers were mainly related to the following acts: street obstruction; hawking commodities not specified in licence; using a fixed pitch without holding a fixed-pitch licence; and failing to comply with conditions of licence. Prosecutions instituted against unlicensed hawkers were mainly related to the following acts; street obstruction; illegal hawking; and sale of cooked food/restricted food. Further breakdown is not readily available.
- d. The number of raids is determined by the number of complaints received involving suspected illegal hawking activities and other relevant factors including the actual situation prevailing in individual hawker blackspots. Raiding operations are planned by Hawker Control Teams having regard to the prevailing situation in the districts, for the purpose of keeping the streets and main thoroughfares unobstructed and free from illegal hawkers as far as possible. In 2013, the number of convictions against unlicensed hawkers has increased, while the number of unlicensed hawkers is declining.

No. of Unlicensed Hawkers in 2008 - 2013

Year	Unlicensed Hawkers
2008	2 061
2009	2 010
2010	1 896
2011	1 921
2012	1 691
2013	1 463

No. of convictions against licensed and unlicensed hawkers

Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
No. of convictions against licensed hawkers	4 855	5 418	5 246	5 048	5 256	5 064
No. of convictions against unlicensed hawkers	21 801	25 919	24 565	25 169	25 234	26 294