Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2015-16

Reply Serial No.

FHB(FE)114

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0865)

<u>Head</u>: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

<u>Programme</u>: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

After clearance of protesters' tents and articles at the illegally occupied roads in the vicinity of the Legislative Council Complex and Admiralty by the Police on 15 December last year, some protesters moved their articles and tents to the pavement at Tim Mei Avenue. As the number of the protesters' tents has kept on increasing, the tents have so far occupied the areas extending along the pavement at Tim Mei Avenue to Harcourt Road. In this connection, please provide information on the following:

- 1. whether the Department has carried out any cleansing operations or taken any measures in respect of the hygiene conditions of the pavement at Tim Mei Avenue since 15 December last year;
- 2. whether any complaints in respect of the environmental hygiene conditions of the roads mentioned above have been received and the number of these complaints; and
- 3. given that heaps of articles and food have been accumulated in the tents erected by some occupiers and that the situation is prone to posing a threat to public health and hygiene by the breeding of germs and pest infestations, whether the Department has noticed this situation and planned to take appropriate actions jointly with the Police to clear the articles occupying the roads with a view to ensuring environmental hygiene in the areas around Tim Mei Avenue.

Asked by: Hon CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher (Member Question No. 42)

Reply:

1. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has been providing pest control services and daily cleansing services, including street sweeping and emptying of litter containers to maintain the environmental hygiene condition of, among others, Tim Mei Avenue, irrespective of whether there are tents along the Avenue.

- 2. Between 15 December 2014 and 6 March 2015, the Department received one complaint about the environmental hygiene condition at Tim Mei Avenue.
- 3. Whilst continuous efforts are being made to provide pest control services together with daily cleansing services at Tim Mei Avenue, the Department is closely monitoring the situation and will take appropriate action to maintain the environmental hygiene condition of the area.