

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)137**

**(Question Serial No. 2331)**

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

Question:

Regarding the enforcement against unlicensed hawkers, please advise this Committee on the work in each of the past three years as follows:

- (a) the number of convicted prosecution cases;
- (b) the number of hawking paraphernalia and goods seized from unlicensed hawkers and how the seizures were disposed of; and
- (c) the expenditure and manpower required for keeping the seizures mentioned in (b).

Asked by: Hon HO Sau-lan, Cyd (Member Question No.23)

Reply:

- (a) There were 25 234, 26 294 and 28 206 convicted prosecution cases against unlicensed hawkers in 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively.
- (b) There are no statistics on the amount of hawking paraphernalia and goods seized from unlicensed hawkers. For seized goods that are perishable, e.g. restricted food, fruits and vegetables, they will be immediately disposed of after spraying with chloride of lime and delivered to landfill or refuse collection point as appropriate. For non-perishable goods, they would in general be kept in a safe condition after seizure pending final disposal. The Court will order forfeiture of the seized articles upon conviction of the hawker offence. Except where perishable goods have been immediately disposed of as aforesaid, other non-perishable seized goods with an assessed value of under \$200 will be destroyed while those items with an assessed value over \$200 will be sent to the Government Logistics Department for disposal by way of sale.

- (c) In 2012, 2013 and 2014, there were respectively 94, 93 and 88 staff members whose duties include, among the others, responsibility for keeping the seizure. There is no breakdown on expenditure involved solely for keeping the seizures.

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