

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)172**

**(Question Serial No. 1730)**

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:

According to the Financial Secretary, the Government will consider introducing Food Trucks, which are popular abroad, to Hong Kong. However, given that roads are narrow and restricted parking areas are nearly everywhere in Hong Kong, it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, for the proposed Food Trucks to park and operate in areas with considerable pedestrian flow. Smaller, portable mini-stalls (such as those selling dragon's beard candy, sugar onion cake and ice-cream along the walking trail that circles around Victoria Peak) may better meet the needs of visitors.

Please advise whether the Financial Secretary will consider refining/relaxing the proposal stated in paragraph 86 and issuing "itinerant portable food stall" licences to revitalise our local street food industry, boost employment/facilitate small businesses, and provide both local and overseas visitors with convenience.

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (Member Question No. 30)

Reply:

Food Truck is a new idea put forth by the Financial Secretary in his 2015-16 Budget Speech. The Commerce and Economic Development Bureau has, in collaboration with the Food and Health Bureau, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), the Transport Department and other relevant bureaux and departments, begun studying such aspects as the vehicle specifications and requirements, licensing requirements, mode of operation, food safety and environmental hygiene, etc. with a view to bringing in more diverse delicacies for tourists and citizens. At this stage, the Government is actively looking into and collecting information on practices and experiences in overseas countries (e.g. North America, Japan, Korea, Europe etc.). The timetable and detailed plan for implementation will be subject to the outcome of the study and whether legislative amendment is required.

Meanwhile, in the interest of safeguarding food safety and environmental hygiene, FEHD will continue to take enforcement actions against unlicensed hawkers engaged in selling cooked food.

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