

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 0242)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to food surveillance, please provide information on the following:

- (a) the financial provision and manpower for food surveillance by the Centre for Food Safety in 2016-17;
- (b) the total number of food samples taken for testing in various projects under the Food Surveillance Programme in 2015-16 (including routine food surveillance, targeted food surveillance and seasonal food surveillance) and the satisfactory rates; and
- (c) the details regarding the planning of the second Hong Kong Food Consumption Survey as mentioned under Programme (1).

Asked by: Hon Steven HO Chun-yin (Member Question No. 9)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows –

- (a) The estimated expenditure on food surveillance in 2016-17 is \$71.1 million and the estimated manpower provision is 115 posts.
- (b) The statistics on food surveillance are kept on a calendar year basis. In 2015, the numbers of food samples tested under routine food surveillance, targeted food surveillance and seasonal food surveillance were 58 600, 4 500 and 1 300 respectively. The overall satisfactory rate was 99.7 per cent.
- (c) We have earmarked \$9.5 million for conducting the second Hong Kong Food Consumption Survey. The manpower required in planning the Survey will be absorbed from within existing resources. It is expected that a pilot study will be conducted in 2016-17 and the Survey completed in 2018-19.

