

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)180**

**(Question Serial No. 2992)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Please list the projects that the Department will take forward this year for the provision of more crematorium and columbarium facilities, as well as their expected completion dates.

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuk-man (Member Question No. 41)

Reply:

On public crematorium facilities, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) has completed in 2015 the reprovisioning of the Cape Collinson Crematorium (providing ten new cremators and ancillary facilities). The total number of cremators in use would stay at 32 in 2016-17.

On public columbarium facilities, the Government has been promoting development of columbaria in all districts and identified 24 potential sites in the territory for columbarium development to increase the supply of public niches. Among these 24 sites, the construction of 1 540 new niches in the Diamond Hill Columbarium and 1 000 niches in Cheung Chau Cemetery was completed in 2012 and 2013 respectively.

The Department has obtained funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in 2015 for the provision of 160 000 niches at Tsang Tsui, the construction works of which are scheduled for completion in 2019. The Department has also consulted and obtained the in-principle support of the relevant District Councils for the construction of 855 niches at Wong Nai Chung Road, 20 000 niches at Tsing Tsuen Road, 200 000 niches at Sandy Ridge Cemetery, 25 000 niches at Chai Wan and 44 000 niches at Wo Hop Shek (Phase I). The next step is to proceed with the conceptual/detailed design, as applicable, of the relevant projects. Subject to funding approval in 2016, construction works for the Wong Nai Chung Road and Wo Hop Shek (Phase I) projects are scheduled for completion in 2018 and 2019 respectively.