

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)285

(Question Serial No. 6717)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

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:

If the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has specified in the tender document for each cleansing service contract and the signed contract that the contractor shall provide employees with training on occupational safety, protective equipment in the required quantities, ancillary tools, changing facilities and refreshment, please advise on the number of non-compliant cases received and detected upon inspection by the Department in the past five years, with a breakdown by type of non-compliance and the penalty imposed.

Asked by: Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung (Member Question No. 298)

Reply:

In the tender document for each cleansing service contract and the signed contract, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) specifies that the contractor shall provide necessary training on occupational safety, protective equipment and ancillary tools in execution of the service contracts. It is incumbent upon contractors to ensure their employees' safety and health at work. There is no specific requirement on the provision of changing facilities and refreshment. Many venues of the Department with contractors engaged have resting/changing facilities which may be used by employees of the contractors. Staff of the Department carry out regular and surprise inspections to check the contractor's performance and ensure their compliance with the contract requirements at all times. Any breach of contractual obligations by the contractors may lead to the issuance of verbal warnings, written warnings and default notices as well as reduction in monthly payment of service charge. The Department did not receive reports on or detect in the past five years any non-compliant cases concerning the contract requirements related to training on occupational safety, protective equipment and ancillary tools.

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