

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)264

(Question Serial No. 4114)

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:

Given that foods in Hong Kong mainly rely on import, please advise on the expenditure, with details of appropriation, on inspection and quarantine of food imports in the past 3 years. Please also advise whether the Government will step up measures and increase expenditure on inspection and quarantine of imported foods in the wake of last year's food safety incidents; if yes, the details; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (Member Question No. 37)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is responsible for conducting inspection of food and food animals, including inspections at the import level. The total expenditure involved in the inspections of food and food animals at the import level in 2014-15 and 2015-16 was \$159.4 million and \$168.2 million respectively. The revised estimate for 2016-17 is \$189.6 million. The current resources are able to meet the operational requirements.

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