

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)347

(Question Serial No. 3473)

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:

The number of food samples collected for testing has kept on rising. Please advise whether the Department has earmarked adequate resources, including manpower, to meet the demand in 2017; if yes, the details of the manpower and resources required; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (Member Question No. 72)

Reply:

The Food Import and Export Section and the Food Surveillance and Complaint Section of the Centre for Food Safety under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department are responsible for carrying out food surveillance work, including collection of food samples for testing at the import, wholesale and retail levels. With an estimated establishment of 376 staff members in 2017-18, the estimated expenditure of the two Sections in 2017-18 is about \$255 million. Apart from food surveillance, both Sections are involved in other duties. There is no separate breakdown on the expenditures incurred by the two Sections on food surveillance. The current manpower and resources are able to meet the operational requirements.

- End -