

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)177

(Question Serial No. 3433)

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. In this connection, please advise whether sufficient resources, including manpower, have been earmarked to meet the demand in 2018-19. If yes, please provide details including the manpower and resources required; if not, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 64)

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 398 staff members in 2018-19, the estimated expenditure of the two Sections in 2018-19 is about \$264.9 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.

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