

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)345**

**(Question Serial No. 4287)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. The Government plans to set aside \$1 billion for the refurbishment of vacant school premises. In this regard, please advise this Committee whether bazaars will be included as one of the multi-purpose projects.
2. One of the objectives of the 2018-19 Budget is "Caring and sharing". In this connection, please advise this Committee whether the Government plans to provide funding for organisations to set up bazaars aimed at combating poverty and helping grass-roots stall operators to become self-reliant.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 209)

Reply:

1. To make better use of vacant government sites and school premises, the 2018-19 Budget has set aside \$1 billion to subsidise the costs of basic works of eligible projects, and co-ordinate the efforts of government departments in providing technical advice to the user organisations. The Development Bureau is drawing up details of the subsidy scheme, and studying how to ensure that non-governmental organisations applying for financial and technical assistance will use the vacant sites mainly for community use of a non-profit-making nature. The Development Bureau plans to brief the Legislative Council Panel on Development on the details of the subsidy scheme in mid-2018.
2. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department has no plan to provide funding under the Programme of "Market Management and Hawker Control" for organisations to set up bazaars aimed at combating poverty.

- End -