

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)406

(Question Serial No. 6146)

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:

Regarding sampling of imported foods for radiation level tests,

- a. please provide the number of samples taken, the number of unsatisfactory food samples detected and the places of origin of the unsatisfactory samples in the past 3 years; and
- b. has the Department stepped up the sampling and inspection programme in the 2019-20 Estimates? If yes, what are the details including the manpower and expenditure incurred? If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 69)

Reply:

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conducts radiation checking on every consignment of food products imported from Japan making use of the hand-held survey meters and collects food samples on a risk-based approach for laboratory testing of radiation levels. Also, CFS collects food samples imported from other economies for radiation testing on a risk-based approach. CFS conducted radiation tests on around 79 000, 89 000 and 99 000 samples of imported foods in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. The testing results were satisfactory.

CFS will continue its radiation testing arrangements for foods imported from Japan and other economies under a risk-based approach.

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