

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

FHB(FE)426

(Question Serial No. 3398)

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 remained high. In this connection, please advise whether sufficient resources, including manpower, have been earmarked to meet the demand in 2019-20. If yes, please provide details including the manpower and resources required; if no, the reason(s).

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 71)

Reply:

The Food Import and Export Section and the Food Surveillance and Complaint Section of the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) 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, among other duties. The 2 Sections have an estimated establishment of 405 staff members in 2019-20, representing an increase of 6 staff as compared to 2018-19. The estimated expenditure of the 2 Sections in 2019-20 is about \$302.5 million. CFS will keep in view its workload and resource requirements.

- End -