

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)285**

**(Question Serial No. 3570)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to the efforts against street obstruction and littering of parallel traders, please provide information:

- (a) of the number of warnings issued and prosecutions instituted against street obstruction and littering of parallel traders, the locations involved, as well as the nature of these cases, in 2019-20; and
- (b) whether additional manpower or resources will be allocated to deal with frequent street obstruction and littering of parallel traders in order to keep the pavements unobstructed and maintain environmental hygiene.

Asked by: Hon HO Chun-yin, Steven (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

- (a) The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is concerned about the environmental hygiene problems caused by parallel trading activities in the North District and Yuen Long District. In order to maintain environmental hygiene and tidiness in the districts, the Department has stepped up street cleansing services and enforcement actions at parallel trading blackspots, including issuing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) to persons who have committed public cleanliness offences, and also taking part in inter-departmental enforcement actions against non-compliant shops so as to combat obstruction problems caused by parallel trading activities. In 2019-20 (as at 29 February), the Department issued 4 483 FPNs to offenders at parallel trading blackspots.
- (b) An additional dedicated enforcement team (DET) was set up in October 2019 in the North District to combat public cleanliness offences, including irregularities of parallel traders. The Department has provided 20 additional contractual cleansing workmen in the street cleansing service contracts for the North District which commenced in October 2019 to enhance street sweeping and waste removal services. In parallel, an additional DET was set up in December 2019 in the Yuen Long District to combat

public cleanliness offences, including irregularities of parallel traders. The Department will provide 39 additional contractual cleansing workmen in the new street cleansing service contracts for the Yuen Long District which will commence in July 2020 to enhance street sweeping and waste removal services.

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