

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)336**

**(Question Serial No. 3403)**

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:

Under this Programme, the number of samples taken from imported Japanese food for examination of radiation level in connection with the Japan nuclear power plant incident in March 2011 has continued to increase. In this connection, have sufficient resources, including manpower, been earmarked to meet the demand in current year 2020-21? If yes, please provide the details including the manpower and resources required. If no, what is/are the reason(s)?

Asked by: Hon LEE Kok-long, Joseph (LegCo internal reference no.: 75)

Reply:

Subsequent to the nuclear power plant incident in Japan in March 2011, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department conducts radiation testing on every consignment of food products imported from Japan with the use of hand-held survey meters and adopts a risk-based principle in collecting food samples for testing of radiation levels. The number of radiation tests has risen with an increase in imported consignments of food from Japan. CFS will flexibly deploy resources in carrying out the related work. As radiation testing is part of the food surveillance and import control work and the subject officers also undertake other duties, we do not have a separate breakdown of the manpower and recurrent expenditure involved in this aspect of work.

- End -