Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21

Reply Serial No.

S-FHB(FE)007

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. SV010)

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

<u>Programme</u>: (1) Food Safety and Public Health

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

With regard to import control of food, please list the game allowed for import as specified by the Centre for Food Safety of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena

Reply:

According to the Imported Game, Meat, Poultry and Eggs Regulations (Cap. 132AK) (the Regulations), "game" means the fresh or frozen carcass, flesh or other edible parts, including edible viscera and offal, of an animal other than an animal from which meat (i.e. beef, mutton, pork, veal or lamb) is derived and a bird (i.e. domestic fowl, duck, goose or turkey) from which poultry is derived. There is no specified list of "game" in the Regulations.

Under section 4(1)(b) of the Regulations, prior approval of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department is required for the import of game. The import assessment conducted by the Department covers different aspects, among which due regard will be given to the potential public health risk of the food concerned, such as the surveillance, prevention and control of specific foodborne zoonoses undertaken by the authorities of the place of origin. Each consignment of imported "game" must be accompanied by an official health certificate issued by the government authorities of the place of origin attesting that it is fit for human consumption.

The "game" allowed for import in 2019 included the meat of goat, kangaroo, ostrich and crocodile, and the carcass of pigeon and feral pigeon, etc.