

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

FHB(FE)019

Question Serial No.

0351

Head : 49 Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (3) Market Management and Hawker Control

Controlling Officer : Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Food and Health

Question :

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10, the Department will enhance the facilities and management of public markets, inter alia, by continuing improvement works and market promotion. Please provide details, including planned improvement works and promotional activities, as well as the respective expenditure, manpower and timetable involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

In 2009-10, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will carry out general improvement works in 13 markets at an estimated total cost of \$195 million. These market improvement works include mainly upgrading of drainage, lighting, ventilation, signage and fire services provisions. The general improvement works of these markets are expected to be completed in one to two years.

The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department will continue to organise promotional activities in public markets, including roving exhibitions, thematic workshops and festive celebration activities. Quarterly newsletters will also be published to provide updated market information and publicize promotional activities. To further promote active use of public markets, we have since February 2009 lowered the upset price of market stalls which have been vacant for six months or more to attract more potential bidders. We will introduce service trades in selected public markets and expand the variety of permitted trades, for example traditional snack shops or bakeries, to enhance the attractiveness of markets. Planning and coordination of market promotion activities will be undertaken by existing staff of the Department. For 2009-10, the expenditure for market promotions is estimated at \$3 million. For markets where management services have been contracted out, festive promotional activities will be undertaken by contractors at their expense.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ W H CHEUK

Post Title _____ Director of
Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date _____ 17.3.2009