



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部食物及衛生局  
Food and Health Bureau, Government Secretariat  
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
The People's Republic of China

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Clerk to LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong  
(Attn: Mr Richard WONG)  
(Fax: 2509 9055)

Dear Mr Wong,

**LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene  
Powdered Formula Supply Chain**

When the LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene discussed the captioned subject at its meeting of 10 June 2014, Members requested for supplementary information from the Administration. Our reply is as follows:

- (a) **Enforcement actions taken by the Customs and Excise Department (C&ED) against the export of powdered formula without an export licence or an exemption since the commencement of the Import and Export (General) (Amendment) Regulation 2013 on 1 March 2013, including (i) the total number of cases; (ii) the quantity of powdered formula involved in each case; and (iii) a breakdown of the enforcement actions taken against these cases.**

As at the end of May 2014, the C&ED detected a total of 6 256 cases in contravention of the relevant provisions and seized 141 677 kg of powdered formula. The quantities of powdered formula involved in individual cases varied significantly, ranging from the smallest of 0.75 kg to the largest of 29 672 kg. Of

these cases, 20 (involving 75 979 kg of powdered formula) were related to smuggling of a large amount of powdered formula or warehouses of powdered formula, while the remaining 6 236 cases (involving 65 698 kg of powdered formula) were detected at various boundary control points.

- (b) **Implementation of the Coupon Scheme, including (i) the number of local parents using the Scheme; (ii) the monthly quantity of powdered formula purchased via the Scheme since its implementation; and (iii) the number of participating pharmacies (please provide a breakdown by the 18 districts).**

According to the figures provided to us by the seven major suppliers<sup>1</sup>, since the seven major suppliers and the Hong Kong General Chamber of Pharmacy Limited (HKGCP) announced in June 2013 the implementation of the Coupon Scheme, a total of 3 118 requests for coupons were made by local parents of infants and young children up to the end of June 2014. The table below shows the monthly quantity of powdered formula sold via the Coupon Scheme.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Cans Sold</b>
June 2013	0
July 2013	0
August 2013	0
September 2013	6
October 2013	0
November 2013	244
December 2013	1 758
January 2014	1 943
February 2014	932
March 2014	596
April 2014	545
May 2014	688
June 2014	805
<b>Total</b>	<b>7 517</b>

<sup>1</sup> The seven major suppliers include Abbott, Cow & Gate, Friso, Mead Johnson, Nestle, Snow Brand and Wyeth. They account for over 95% of the market share.

According to the information provided by the HKGCPL, the number of pharmacies participating in the Coupon Scheme in each district is shown as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Number of Pharmacies</b>
Central & Western	3
Eastern	5
Islands	0
Kowloon City	7
Kwai Tsing	2
Kwun Tong	4
North	4
Sai Kung	5
Sham Shui Po	5
Sha Tin	6
Southern	3
Tai Po	3
Tsuen Wan	7
Tuen Mun	7
Wan Chai	8
Wong Tai Sin	4
Yau Tsim Mong	13
Yuen Long	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>

- (c) **Implementation of pre-order service hotlines of powdered formula provided by the suppliers, including (i) the number of local parents using the hotlines; and (ii) the monthly number of orders placed and total quantity of powdered formula purchased through the hotlines since their implementation.**

According to the figures provided to us by the seven major suppliers, since the announcement of the implementation of the Coupon Scheme in June 2013 up to the end of June 2014, the monthly number of users of the pre-order services for home delivery or collection from retail outlets, as well as the quantity of powdered formula sold through the services are shown in the table below:

Month	Number of Pre-order Service Users	Number of Cans Sold
June 2013	1 946	8 497
July 2013	2 162	9 053
August 2013	1 908	7 930
September 2013	1 949	10 412
October 2013	5 737	20 986
November 2013	9 605	36 034
December 2013	17 131	68 080
January 2014	17 667	68 837
February 2014	7 065	25 955
March 2014	5 804	21 774
April 2014	4 946	18 378
May 2014	5 224	18 236
June 2014	6 228	20 311
<b>Total</b>	<b>87 372</b>	<b>334 483</b>

Yours sincerely,



( Jeff LEUNG )

for Secretary for Food and Health