

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB016

Question Serial No.

1949

Head : 30 Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No & title) :

Programme : (2) Re-integration

Controlling Officer : Commissioner of Correctional Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

The success rate of the Drug Addiction Treatment Centre programme (non-conviction and free from drugs in one year after discharge) was 56.3% and 54.9% in 2006 and 2007 respectively. Has the Administration examined the reasons for such unsatisfactory results? Is it related to resources and manpower? Are there any measures to enhance the effectiveness of such services? What is the difference between the estimated expenditure in 2008-09 and the actual expenditure in 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kong-wah

Reply :

The success rate of the Drug Addiction Treatment Centre (DATC) programme is contingent upon a number of factors, including the complexity of the inmates' addiction problem, their family and social background, their response to rehabilitation/counselling services, and community acceptance and support.

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) has been making every effort to rehabilitate offenders with drug problem by providing timely and suitable intervention and support, so as to help them remain drug-free after discharge. In this connection, the Department has put in place measures to enhance the DATC programme since 2007-08, having regard to the recommendations of the consultancy study on the preventive and treatment programme for offenders with problems of psychotropic substance abuse. These measures include incorporation of structured counselling and psychological programmes into the daily programme of the DATCs and arrangement of part-time vocational training courses for DATC inmates.

Separately, CSD has embarked on structured rehabilitative programme matching for target offenders in DATCs since January 2007 under the Risks and Needs Assessment and Management Protocol for Offenders. This initiative aims at

strengthening DATC inmates' determination in drug abstinence and remaining drug-free after discharge.

The revised estimated expenditure for operating the DATC programme in 2007-08 is about \$115 million. We estimate that the expenditure for 2008-09 will be more or less the same.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u> KWOK LEUNG MING </u>
Post Title	<u> Commissioner of Correctional Services </u>
Date	<u> 26 March 2008 </u>