

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

Reply Serial No.

SB021

Question Serial No.

0198

Head : 30 Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No & title) :

Programme : (1) Prison Management

Controlling Officer : Commissioner of Correctional Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

Has the Administration earmarked any resources in the estimates of expenditure for 2008-09 to evaluate the effectiveness of industrial production and services provided by the Correctional Services Industries, and whether this arrangement can enhance the employment opportunities of discharged prisoners? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

In order to keep pace with the social development in Hong Kong and to meet the needs of prisoners, Correctional Services Industries (CSI) has been conducting annual evaluation on its industrial production and services activities to enhance the employment of discharged prisoners.

As an enhancement measure, CSI has also involved the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) and the Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong (SRACP) as its key partners in optimising the use of CSI's industrial production and services as an effective platform to improve on the vocational and employment skill training programmes to prisoners. Such arrangements should help enhance the employment opportunities of discharged prisoners. Nevertheless, the prisoners' own determination to turn over a new leaf and other social factors such as the community's acceptance of their reintegration also affect their employment opportunities after discharge.

The foregoing annual evaluation has been conducted under CSI's existing resources.

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