

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

SB165

Question Serial No.

1579

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 :

The Administration has been exploring measures to address the problems of outdated facilities and overcrowding in some of the penal institutions. What is the progress? Will any new recommendations be implemented in 2009?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kong-wah

Reply :

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) has been implementing a series of measures to address the problems of outdated facilities and overcrowding in some of the penal institutions. These measures include:

- (a) conversion of Lai King Training Centre (LKTC) into a female facility to relieve overcrowding at Tai Tam Gap Correctional Institution (TGCI). After renovation, LKTC was renamed as Lai King Correctional Institution. It commenced operation in May 2008;
- (b) construction of an extension block at Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre to provide 144 additional penal places for persons on remand. The project completed in July 2008;
- (c) conversion of the vacated TGCI into a male Rehabilitation Centre to relieve overcrowding at Lai Chi Rehabilitation Centre. The project is in progress and will complete in May 2009;
- (d) redevelopment of Lo Wu Correctional Institution into three new institutions to provide 1 400 penal places. Construction works commenced in April 2007 and the project is scheduled for completion in early 2010; and

- (e) improvement works at existing institutions, including installation of CCTV systems and integrated security systems, upgrading of electrical supply systems and call bell systems, etc. Such improvement works will continue to be carried out as and when necessary.

CSD will continue to monitor the situation and consider other measures, including the option of redeveloping the institutions at Chi Ma Wan, to address the problems of outdated facilities and overcrowding in some institutions.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u> KWOK LEUNG MING </u>
Post Title	<u> Commissioner of Correctional Services </u>
Date	<u> 19 March 2009 </u>