

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

Reply Serial No.

**SB170**

Question Serial No.

1584

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 :

Has the Administration assessed the effectiveness of re-integration cum supervision programmes for those prisoners joining the programmes? If yes, what is the result? If no, what are the reasons? Will any new recommendations be introduced to the programmes in 2009?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kong-wah

Reply :

The re-integration programme of the Correctional Services Department comprises various components, which include rehabilitative programmes, education and vocational training, aftercare and support services for dischargees during supervision, etc.

The overall success rates of the re-integration programme within the supervision period for 2007 and 2008 were 70% and 74.4% respectively. While the success rate can be regarded as an indicator of the effectiveness of the programme, the effectiveness of the re-integration programme cannot be solely evaluated by the success rate because it is affected by many factors that are beyond the control of the authorities, such as the prisoners' family and social background, their response to rehabilitation/counselling services, community acceptance and support, and the prevailing economic conditions. CSD will continue to keep the programme under constant review, so as to ensure that prisoners are provided with the appropriate services that will improve their likelihood of successful re-integration into society.

To enhance prisoners' employability after release, CSD has been strengthening its provision of pre-release vocational training to prisoners in recent years. Apart from the provision of full-time/part-time vocational training courses, the Department has, since 2009, gradually increased the element of vocational training in some of the correctional services industries. With this new initiative, more prisoners would be given the opportunity to receive vocational training in the course of their production processes in prison workshops.

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