

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

**SB218**

Question Serial No.

1516

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:

Please advise this Committee of the amount of resources that has been used by the Correctional Services Department to promote community acceptance of and support for rehabilitated offenders, the publicity methods that have been adopted and the estimated number of persons reached by these publicity methods.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

In 2012-13, the Correctional Services Department (CSD) spent about \$800,000 to organise publicity and educational activities with the theme of "Give Rehabilitated Offenders A Chance" to appeal for community acceptance of and support for rehabilitated offenders. The activities were organized with the following four community groups as targets:

- (a) Activities targeting the general public: Through broadcasting Television and Radio Announcement of Public Interest and displaying publicity posters and giant banners, the message of supporting offender rehabilitation was conveyed to the general public.
- (b) Activities targeting employers: the CSD co-organised the "Give Rehabilitated Offenders A Chance Employment Symposium" with the University of Hong Kong. More than 230 employers and representatives from 110 companies, social enterprises and statutory organisations attended the symposium. The Department also arranged about 200 employers to visit correctional institutions to facilitate their better understanding of the rehabilitation work, including the vocational training courses of the CSD.
- (c) Activities targeting district and community organisations: the CSD organised the "Non-governmental Organisation Forum" to strengthen the cooperation and exchange between the Department and non-governmental organisations on rehabilitation services. A total of 320 participants attended the forum. Besides, CSD also conducted district-based rehabilitation publicity activities in collaboration with the District Fight Crime Committees. Since the publicity activities were organised in public areas, the CSD did not gather information on the number of persons reached.
- (d) Activities targeting students and young people: the CSD implemented the "Rehabilitation Pioneer Project" (RPP) with the objective to convey the messages of "Be law-abiding; Stay away from drugs; Support offender rehabilitation" through a wide range of activities. The activities included educational talks, student forum, the Personal Encounter with Prisoners Scheme and visits to correctional institutions and their environment-friendly facilities and the Hong Kong Correctional Services Museum. During the year, there was a total of about 22 800 participants.

Name in block letters: SIN YAT KIN

Post Title: Commissioner of Correctional Services

Date: 26.3.2013