

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****SB166****(Question Serial No. 2851)**

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Re-integration

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Correctional Services (SIN Yat-kin)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

This question originates from: Estimates on Expenditure Volume 1 Page 136

Question (Member Question No. 39):

Regarding the vocational training for young persons and persons in custody, will the Administration provide the following:

1. The content of the training programmes concerned and expenses involved.
2. The number of rehabilitated offenders who have been in continuous employment for over one year and the types of their work in the past three years.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

In 2013-14, having regard to the situation of local employment market, the Correctional Services Department (CSD) worked with various training bodies such as the Employees Retraining Board, the Construction Industry Council and the Vocational Training Council to provide eligible adult persons in custody with remaining sentences from 3 to 24 months with more than 30 full-time and part-time vocational courses for enrolment on a voluntary basis. These courses covered the construction, engineering, business, food and beverage, retailing, tourism, beauty care and logistics sectors etc. Trainees were also arranged to sit for the relevant examinations so as to obtain recognised qualifications, thereby enhancing their employability and facilitating their smooth re-integration into society upon discharge. In 2013-14, CSD provided about 1 400 training places for enrolled adult persons in custody to receive training, including 6 new vocational training courses on Bar-bending and Fixing Skill, Timber Formwork Skill, Webpage Design, Digital Film Editing, Travel Agent Assistant Training and Hong Kong Style Café Operation.

CSD also provides half-day education and half-day vocational training for young persons in custody. At present, CSD provides them with 15 vocational training courses covering the technical, business and service industries, such as mechanical craft, office and commercial practice as well as food and beverage service. The trainees will also be arranged to sit for the examinations held by the accreditation bodies.

In 2013-14, CSD's revised estimate of expenditure on vocational training courses provided by recognised training bodies, employment counselling services, training equipment and materials etc. is about \$13.08 million.

As most of the persons in custody are not subject to supervision after release, CSD, does not have such employment data. Nevertheless, CSD encourages and refers rehabilitated persons who are not subject to statutory supervision to receive post-release employment follow-up service provided by relevant non-

government organisations on a voluntary basis. Furthermore, CSD will continue to promote community involvement and appeal to employers to provide employment opportunities for rehabilitated persons.