

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**SB343****(Question Serial No. 5855)**

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

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

Programme: (1) Prison Management

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 135

Question (Member Question No. 343):

What is the provision involved for persons in custody taking university courses in 2014-15? What are the numbers of persons in custody taking university courses and the provisions required in the past three years?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

The Correctional Services Department provides secondary education for most of the persons in custody under 21. For other persons in custody who are interested in pursuing further studies, we also encourage them to undertake self-learning, take public examinations or enroll in university distance learning courses. To assist those persons in custody who want to pursue further studies but have difficulties in paying for public examination fees, the examination and tuition fees for university distance learning courses or purchasing reference books, the Department has set up a number of education funds for them to apply for financial assistance. These funds are contributed by donations from charitable organisations and members of the public.

The numbers of persons in custody who took university courses in the past three years are set out below:

Year	No. of persons in custody who took university courses
2011	139
2012	127
2013	184