

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**SB346****(Question Serial No. 5884)**

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

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

Programme: (1) Prison Management (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 138

Question (Member Question No. 83):

Regarding the market-oriented and socially recognised vocational training provided for persons in custody, will the Administration inform this Committee of:

1. the daily average number of young persons in custody receiving vocational training by penal institution and their age during imprisonment in 2013-14;
2. the post-release employment rates of young persons in custody who have received vocational training by penal institution and their age during imprisonment in 2013-14;
3. the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in providing market-oriented and socially recognised vocational training for persons in custody by the Correctional Services Department in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

1. In accordance with the Laws of Hong Kong, the Correctional Services Department (CSD) may require a person in custody who is under 21 years of age to attend educational classes. Therefore, CSD provides half day education and half day vocational training for all young persons in custody (except those detainees of detention centres and those young offenders who are receiving the second phase of training in rehabilitation centres ^(Note 1)). In 2013, the average daily number of young persons in custody was 650 and their distribution at institutions was as follows:

Correctional Institutions	Average daily number of persons
Cape Collinson Correctional Institution	178
Pik Uk Correctional Institution	169
Sha Tsui Correctional Institution (young persons in custody group ^(Note 2))	88
Lai Sun Correctional Institution	87
Lai King Correctional Institution	45
Nei Kwu Correctional Institution	22
Lai Chi Rehabilitation Centre	48
Chi Lan Rehabilitation Centre	13
Total	650

- (Note 1) In accordance with the Laws of Hong Kong, CSD arranges detainees of detention centres to receive disciplinary and physical training as well as moral education. As regards those young offenders receiving second stage of training in rehabilitation centres, they may go out for work or schooling during daytime.
- (Note 2) The figure does not include the detainees of the detention centre at Sha Tsui Correctional Institution.
2. Under the supervision order, young persons in custody are required to pursue further studies or engage in proper employment during the statutory supervision period upon release. All those supervisees who have not engaged in proper employment during the supervision period will be regarded as having violated the supervision order unless they can provide a reasonable excuse such as pursuing further studies etc.

In 2013, the employment rates of young persons in custody who have received vocational training upon release were as follows:

Correctional Institutions	Employment rate
Cape Collinson Correctional Institution	98.3%
Pik Uk Correctional Institution	92.3%
Sha Tsui Correctional Institution (young persons in custody group)	97.5%
Lai Sun Correctional Institution	95.9%
Lai King Correctional Institution	100%
Nei Kwu Correctional Institution	100%
Lai Chi Rehabilitation Centre	96.1%
Chi Lan Rehabilitation Centre	93.3%

3. In 2014-15, CSD's estimated expenditure on vocational training courses provided by recognised training bodies, employment counseling services, training equipment and materials etc. is about \$13 million. CSD will also recruit Technical Instructors to provide some of the vocational training for persons in custody. There are 36 posts under the establishment of CSD's Vocational Training Section. Twenty-three of them are at institutions for young persons in custody. Apart from coordinating vocational training courses for persons in custody, they are also required to perform other supervision duties.