

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB672

(Question Serial No. 5121)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Prison Management

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Correctional Services (YAU Chi-chiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

What is the provision involved for persons in custody taking university courses in 2015-16? What is the number of persons in custody being subsidised for taking university courses and the provisions required in the past 3 years? Which Subhead will the provision be deducted from?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 192)

Reply:

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) provides formal education for persons in custody under 21 and encourages adult persons in custody to pursue further studies on a voluntary basis and take public examinations or enroll in university distance learning courses under the users-pay principle. The Department has set up a number of education funds for them to apply for financial assistance 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. 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 3 years are set out below:

Year	No. of persons in custody who took university courses
2012	127
2013	184
2014	162