

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

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

**SB131**

Question Serial No.

0923

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 :

- (a) What are the details of the vocational training currently provided for prisoners in terms of types, number of places and financial resources involved?
- (b) Has the Administration evaluated the effectiveness of the existing vocational training provided for prisoners in facilitating their re-integration into society?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

- (a) For young offenders, the Correctional Services Department (CSD) arranges them to receive half-day vocational training, which is mainly vocational skills training, on a daily basis. The courses include air-conditioning and refrigeration, electrical fitting and installation, fashion and clothing design, food and beverage service and office and commercial practice, etc.

For adult prisoners, CSD provides local adult prisoners with remaining sentences from three to 24 months with some 25 part-time and full-time vocational training courses for enrolment on a voluntary basis. These courses cover sectors such as the technical, business and service sectors, which include electrical fitting and installation, air-conditioning and refrigeration, office and commercial practice, removal and logistics, retail salesperson training, word processing and vocational Putonghua training, etc.

A total of 1 363 young offenders and 943 adult prisoners received vocational training in penal institutions in 2009. The revised estimated expenditure for vocational training in 2009-10 is \$17.0 million and the estimated expenditure in 2010-11 is \$16.8 million.

- (b) According to the latest statistics, 95% of the young offenders succeeded in securing employment within one month after release. For adult prisoners who had completed vocational training and received voluntary follow-up employment services, 83% of them succeeded in securing employment within six months upon release. CSD will continue to review regularly the provision of vocational training to prisoners and evaluate its effectiveness, with a view to providing suitable vocational training courses to prisoners, thereby facilitating their re-integration into society.

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|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Signature             | _____                                        |
| Name in block letters | <b>KWOK LEUNG MING</b>                       |
| Post Title            | <b>Commissioner of Correctional Services</b> |
| Date                  | <b>16 March 2010</b>                         |