

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

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

Reply Serial No.

**SB125**

Question Serial No.

1958

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 :

In encouraging and assisting prisoners re-integrate into society, what specific education and vocational training measures have been implemented by the Correctional Services Department to help them develop a good working habit and acquire work skills with a view to facilitating their re-integration upon release? What is the expenditure involved for each of the measures?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) has all along been striving to facilitate the smooth re-integration of offenders into society by providing them with suitable rehabilitative services.

On education, CSD provides half-day education for young offenders under the age of 21. In order to enhance language and computer education, CSD has set up computer rooms or multi-media learning centres in all institutions for young offenders. As for adult prisoners who wish to further their studies after work, staff of CSD will provide guidance and advice to them, as well as help them enrol in suitable courses and apply for relevant subsidies.

On vocational training, young offenders are arranged to receive half-day vocational skills training. For local adult prisoners, CSD provides them with diversified and market-oriented pre-release vocational training in order to enhance their employability and facilitate their smooth re-integration into society after release. On completion of

training, trainees will be arranged to sit for the relevant open examinations to obtain recognised vocational qualification. Moreover, in order to enhance the employability of rehabilitated offenders, CSD has increased the element of vocational training in the industrial production processes of prison workshops since February 2009, enabling the prisoners to receive vocational training in the course of their work.

Apart from providing technical training, CSD also makes arrangement with related non-government organisations to provide prisoners receiving vocational training with supporting services and training, such as employment counselling, interpersonal relationship skills, job seeking and interview skills. Moreover, job matching, referral and follow-up services are provided for trainees upon release to help them secure employment as soon as possible for their re-integration into society.

The related expenditures in 2009-10 and 2010-11 are as follows:

Year	Expenditure on Education (\$m)	Expenditure on Vocational Training (\$m)
2009-10	25.0 (Revised Estimates)	17.0 (Revised Estimates)
2010-11	27.6 (Estimates)	16.8 (Estimates)

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