

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

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

Reply Serial No.

**SB122**

Question Serial No.

Head : 30 Correctional Services Department    Subhead (No. & title) :

2583

Programme : (2) Re-integration

Controlling Officer : Commissioner of Correctional Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

- (a) Regarding the indicator under the Programme, there is an increase in the success rate of the Drug Addiction Treatment Centre (DATC) programme (non-conviction and free from drugs in one year after discharge). However, the success rate was only 64.7%. Will the Administration review the issue to look for improvement?
- (b) Upon the release of DATC inmates, are there any follow-up services to help them to re-integrate into society? If yes, what are the details and the duration?
- (c) Given the seriousness of drug abuse nowadays, are the number of places and services provided by DATCs adequate? Is there any increase in the estimated expenditure and manpower for DATCs in 2010-11?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) The success rate of the Drug Addiction Treatment Centre (DATC) programme is affected by various factors such as family and social background of individual inmates, their response to rehabilitative/counselling services, the acceptance and support of the community and the prevailing economic condition, etc. The Correctional Services Department (CSD) is pleased to note that the success rate of the DATC programme had increased in the past two years. We will continue to monitor the effectiveness and success rate of the programme and make further improvement as appropriate to facilitate the rehabilitation of DATC inmates.

- (b) All DATC inmates are subject to one year's statutory supervision upon discharge. Supervising officers will follow up the case of their supervisees in respect of their employment/education. They will also provide counselling and support, follow up on the supervisees' relationship with family members/friends as well as their progress of abstinence from drugs, so as to help them stay away from drugs and start afresh.
- (c) In order to cope with the increase in the number of DATC inmates in recent years and to enhance the drug addiction treatment for them, CSD converted Lai Sun Correctional Institution into an addiction treatment centre in January 2010 to provide 182 additional DATC places for men. Moreover, some of the prison dormitories in Nei Kwu Correctional Institution have been modified to provide 40 additional DATC places for women in February 2010. At present, CSD provides a total of 1 050 places for DATC programme (male: 870 and female: 180). From 1 April 2009 to 28 February 2010, an average of 726 inmates (male: 560 and female: 166) were detained in DATC each day. The existing places for addiction treatment programme are adequate to meet the demand.

As compared with 2009-10, there will be an increase in estimated expenditure for the DATC programme by \$4.69 million. We will arrange internal redeployment and there is no need to increase the manpower for the DATC programme in 2010-11.

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