

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

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

**SB133**

Question Serial No.

3023

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

Programme : (1) Prison Management

Controlling Officer : Commissioner of Correctional Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

Following the enactment of the Voting by Imprisoned Persons Ordinance in October 2009, persons under custody are allowed to register as “electors in custody” and to vote in public elections. For the coming Legislative Council by-election and the future elections of various tiers, what are the expenditures for making the necessary arrangements by the Correctional Services Department? What are the details of these arrangements?

Asked by : Hon. NG Margaret

Reply :

To handle voter registration and voting arrangements for inmates in elections of various levels, the Correctional Services Department (CSD) has deployed a dedicated Principal Officer to handle the related work. Besides, an Institution Voting Committee will be established in every penal institution to deal with issues such as access to election-related information by inmates, setting up of dedicated polling station in the institution and voting arrangement for inmates on the polling day. The committee will be chaired by an officer at the rank of Chief Officer or above and composed of the concerned section heads of the institution. Moreover, CSD has drawn up the Manual on Voting Arrangement for their staff members' reference. Relevant training will also be provided to the staff concerned.

The notional annual mid-point salary value of the Principal Officer responsible for handling voter registration and the related voting arrangements is \$655,980. As for

the members of the Institution Voting Committees at the institutions, since they have to take up other duties concurrently, we do not have a separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.

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