Reply Serial No.

S-SB007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Question Serial No.

S035

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 :
Regarding Reply SB122, the success rate of non-conviction and free from drugs in one year after discharge from the Drug Addiction Treatment Centre (DATC) was only some 60%. The Administration states that discharged DATC inmates are already subject to one year's statutory supervision and counselling and support are given to them. However, among those inmates discharged from DATC, almost four out of 10 become drug abusers or offenders again. Does it mean that the care and support given to them are still inadequate? Will the Administration provide additional resources in the coming year to address the problem of re-offending so as to help them start afresh? Moreover, for the indicator "non-conviction and free from drugs in one year after discharge", will the Administration set a higher and more specific target in the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :
The Correctional Services Department (CSD) provides inmates of Drug Addiction Treatment Centres (DATCs) with welfare and counselling services. Besides, the inmates' re-offending risks and their rehabilitative needs in the areas of employment, family, social functioning and community adjustment are assessed with a view to providing them with appropriate rehabilitative programme matching, hence helping them start afresh. During the supervision period after release, supervising officers of CSD will follow up the supervisees' situation and ensure that they are engaged in gainful employment, law-abiding and staying away from drugs. CSD will provide an additional funding of $4.69 million on addiction treatment services in 2010-11.

The success rate of the DATC programme is contingent upon a number of factors. Whether inmates can start afresh not only depend upon the DATC programme and the related rehabilitative services provided by CSD, but also their own determination as well as the acceptance and support of the community. Given that "non-conviction and free from drugs in one year after discharge" is an objective indicator that reflects

generally the effectiveness of the DATC programme as influenced by various factors, CSD will continue to adopt this indicator as a reference in the coming year.

Signature	
Name in block letters	KWOK LEUNG MING
Post Title	Commissioner of Correctional Services
Date	8 April 2010