Reply Serial No.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

S-SB008

Question Serial No.

S036

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) Reply SB123 states that the Correctional Services Department (CSD) does not have information and data on the employment of rehabilitated persons by government departments and private enterprises. Do other government departments have the relevant data?

(b) If no, how does the Administration assess whether the support services provided for the rehabilitated persons are sufficient; whether the support provided for them is effective; and areas for improvement?

(c) The Reply also states that CSD will organise a new round of publicity activities appealing for community acceptance of and support for rehabilitated persons in 2010-11 and the estimated expenditure is $1.65 million. Apart from these publicity activities, will the Administration organise any workplace attachment programmes in collaboration with private enterprises, such as job-matching schemes, to actually provide employment opportunity to rehabilitated persons?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

(a) The Government does not collect information and data on the employment of rehabilitated persons by government departments and private enterprises.

(b) Although the Government does not centrally collect information and data on the employment of rehabilitated persons by government departments and private enterprises, the Correctional Services Department (CSD) does gather information on specific areas for reference. For example, CSD has all along been collecting the employment information of rehabilitated persons subject to supervision. The Department has also, through the Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong (SRACP), collected employment figures of discharged adult inmates who have completed pre-release vocational training. In addition, CSD and the

related training organisations will collect through questionnaire the comments of prisoners on the vocational training courses they have attended.

(c) Apart from organising educational and publicity activities to promote public support for rehabilitated persons, CSD has all along been implementing different programmes to facilitate their re-integration into society. Local prisoners are arranged to attend the "Pre-release Re-integration Orientation Course" before discharge to help them acquire general information which is useful for their rehabilitation. Special measures are also in place to help them find jobs. For example, in 2008, CSD facilitated the co-operation of a commercial enterprise and SRACP to establish a social enterprise which provided employment opportunities for rehabilitated persons. CSD will continue to promote such kind of cooperation with a view to providing more job opportunities for rehabilitated persons. In addition, SRACP offers post-release employment counselling and follow-up services for adult inmates who have completed placement-tied courses provided by CSD. CSD has also developed a "Caring Employers" network, mainly consisted of local enterprises, to provide a platform for rehabilitated persons to find jobs. In 2009, a total of 554 rehabilitated persons secured jobs through the network.

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