

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12

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

Reply Serial No.

SB179

Question Serial No.

1149

Head : 30 Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title) : 000 Operational Expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Commissioner of Correctional Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

Please provide the following information on the employment of agency workers:

	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09
Number of employment agency contracts	()	()	()	()
Total sum of each employment agency contract	()	()	()	()
Total commission paid to each employment agency	()	()	()	()
Term of each employment agency contract	()	()	()	()
Number of agency workers	()	()	()	()
Details of the positions of agency workers				
Distribution of monthly salary levels of agency workers				
● \$30,001 or above	()	()	()	()
● \$16,001 to \$30,000	()	()	()	()
● \$8,001 to \$16,000	()	()	()	()
● \$6,501 to \$8,000	()	()	()	()
● \$5,001 to \$6,500	()	()	()	()
● \$5,000 or below	()	()	()	()
● Number of workers with monthly salary below \$5,824	()	()	()	()
● Number of workers with monthly salary between \$5,824 and 6,500	()	()	()	()
Length of employment of agency workers				
● Five years or above	()	()	()	()
● Three to five years	()	()	()	()
● One to three years	()	()	()	()
● Less than one year	()	()	()	()

Number of agency workers as a percentage of total number of staff in the department	()	()	()	()
Total fees paid to employment agencies as a percentage of the total expenditure on all staff of the department	()	()	()	()
Number of workers remunerated for meal break	()	()	()	()
Number of workers not remunerated for meal break	()	()	()	()
Number of workers working five days a week	()	()	()	()
Number of workers working six days a week	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year changes

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

Information on the employment of agency workers working in the Correctional Services Department is set out below:

	2011-12 ¹	2010-11 (as at 28.2.2011)	2009-10	2008-09
Number of employment agency contracts	-	11 (±0%)	11 (+38%)	8
Total sum of each employment agency contract		\$5,224,669 (-22%)	\$6,703,463 (+39%)	\$4,822,188
Total commission paid to each employment agency	Information on the concerned commission not available			
Term of each employment agency contract		12-18 months	12-18 months	12-18 months
Number of agency workers		60 (-12%)	68 (+13%)	60
Details of the positions of agency workers		Temporary Clerk: 19 Temporary Workman: 36 Temporary Administrative Assistant: 1 Product Coordinator: 4	Temporary Clerk: 31 Temporary Workman: 33 Product Coordinator: 4	Temporary Clerk: 35 Temporary Workman: 21 Product Coordinator: 4
Distribution of monthly salary levels of agency workers				
- \$30,001 or above		-	-	-
- \$16,001 to \$30,000		-	-	-
- \$8,001 to \$16,000		1 (-50%)	2	-
- \$6,501 to \$8,000		40 (+14%)	35 (-42%)	60
- \$5,001 to \$6,500		19 (-39%)	31	-
- \$5,000 or below		-	-	-

¹ Figures are not available as the requirements for employing agency workers vary from time to time in the light of changing service and operational requirements.

- Number of workers with monthly salary below \$5,824	19 (-39%)	31	-
- Number of workers with monthly salary between \$5,824 and 6,500	-	-	-
Length of employment of agency workers - Five years or above - Three to five years - One to three years - Less than one year	Not available ^(Note 1)		
Number of agency workers as a percentage of total number of staff in the department	0.87% (-12%)	0.99% (+14%)	0.87%
Total fees paid to employment agencies as a percentage of the total expenditure on all staff of the department	0.26% (-10%)	0.29% (+38%)	0.21%
Number of workers remunerated for meal break Number of workers not remunerated for meal break	Not available ^(Note 2)		
Number of workers working five days a week	54 (-11%)	61 (+22%)	50
Number of workers working six days a week	6 (-14%)	7 (-30%)	10

Figures in () denote year-on-year changes

Signature _____
Name in block letters SIN YAT KIN
Post Title Commissioner of Correctional Services
Date 16 March 2011

Note 1 Agency workers are provided by employment agencies according to service contracts. They do not have an employer-employee relationship with the department. As such, we do not have information on the length of employment of agency workers.

Note 2 The issue of whether there is remuneration for meal break for agency workers is agreed between employment agencies and agency workers when signing the contracts. We do not have information on whether agency workers are remunerated for meal break.