

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB470

(Question Serial No. 5779)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Re-integration

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Correctional Services (YAU Chi-chiu)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In respect of the work on assisting persons in custody to re-integrate into society, please list out the following annual figures in the past 3 years:

1. the number of participants in rehabilitation programmes;
2. the number of participants in drug addiction treatment programmes;
3. the number of participants in aftercare counselling and support services;
4. the number of participants in educational and vocational training programmes; and
5. the number of persons who have continued studies or secured employment within 1 year after release.

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 76)

Reply:

1. The Correctional Services Department (CSD) provides rehabilitation programmes and support in different ways and of different levels to each convicted person who is admitted to correctional institutions, having regard to the duration of their imprisonment and rehabilitation needs. These include appropriate individual and group counselling, vocational training, educational courses, information on rehabilitation, etc. The aim is to help persons in custody rehabilitate and re-integrate into society. In the past 3 years, the daily average penal population (including persons in custody who are on remand) is as follows:

Year	2013	2014	2015
Number of persons	9 206	8 797	8 413

2. In the past 3 years, the numbers of persons who were sentenced to Drug Addiction Treatment Centres are as follows:

Year	2013	2014	2015
Number of persons	1 223	1 041	908

3. CSD provides aftercare and support services to discharged persons who are subject to statutory supervision after release. In the past 3 years, the total numbers of cases receiving statutory supervision are as follows:

Year	2013	2014	2015
Total number of cases as at the end of the year	2 251	2 169	1 991

4. CSD provides half-day education and half-day vocational training for young persons in custody under the age of 21. In the past 3 years, the numbers of participants who were sentenced to imprisonment and required to participate in education and vocational training are as follows:

Young Persons in Custody

Year	2013	2014	2015
Number of participants in education and vocational training	1 082	745	625

Moreover, CSD provides vocational training courses for adult persons in custody to enrol on a voluntary basis, and helps them to enrol in distance learning courses organised by outside educational institutions and sit for public examinations. In the past 3 years, the numbers of participants who participated in education and vocational training are as follows:

Adult Persons in Custody

Year	2013	2014	2015
Number of participants in education	927	942	1 215
Number of participants in vocational training	1 348	1 429	1 453

5. Since the large majority of persons in custody are not subject to statutory supervision after release, CSD is not fully informed of the situation of their employment and education after release. As such, the related figures concerning discharged persons within 1 year after release are not available. Nevertheless, CSD will encourage and refer them to the relevant non-government organisations to receive post-release support services, including counselling and follow-up on employment and education, on a voluntary basis.