

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**SB476**

**(Question Serial No. 5219)**

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ( )

Programme: (1) Prison Management

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Persons in custody often reflect that the Department provides a chicken drumstick to each non-vegetarian inmate in their evening meal on major festivals only. Will the Government increase the provision in 2016-17 so that all persons in custody may have a chicken drumstick in their evening meal once every week?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 295)

Reply:

Under Section 24A of the Prisons Ordinance (Cap. 234), plain and wholesome food should be supplied to persons in custody. The various dietary scales currently provided by the Correctional Services Department (CSD) are designed by dietitians and approved by the Department of Health. The scales meet the nutritional needs of persons in custody. Non-vegetarian persons in custody are provided with an appropriate amount of meat in their daily meals and chicken is one of the types of meat provided every week. During the three major festivals of Hong Kong, namely the Mid-Autumn Festival, Christmas and Lunar New Year, CSD provides persons in custody with "festive food supplements" as a token of care of the community. Both vegetarian and non-vegetarian persons in custody are provided with "festive food supplements", such as chicken legs and vegetarian food items.