

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB476

(Question Serial No. 6791)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Prison Management

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In the past 3 years, what are the numbers of cases involving persons in custody subject to separate confinement in various prisons? What are the reasons/categories of these cases of separate confinement?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (Member Question No. 449)

Reply:

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) is committed to ensuring a secure, safe, humane, decent and healthy custodial environment and creating rehabilitation opportunities in collaboration with community stakeholders. In accordance with the Prison Rules (Cap. 234A), CSD is empowered to impose segregation or removal from association with other persons in custody (PICs) on individual PIC for different reasons and operational needs, including separate confinement imposed as punishment for offences against prison discipline. PICs can also apply for removal from association with other PICs in view of their own circumstances such as special criminal background.

The numbers of disciplinary cases involving PICs being imposed separate confinement as punishment and cases involving PICs being removed from association with other PICs in the past 3 years are listed below:

Year	Disciplinary cases involving PICs being imposed separate confinement as punishment	Cases involving PICs being removed from association with other PICs ^(Note)
2016	3 297	1 255
2015	2 905	1 267
2014	2 715	1 417

(Note) To deter the smuggling of dangerous drugs into correctional institutions, more than 50% of the above cases involved PICs suspected of having internal concealment of dangerous drugs and they were removed from association with other PICs as a security measure. Separately, there

were nearly 10% of the cases that involved PICs taking the initiative to apply for removal from association in view of their own circumstances such as special criminal background.

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