

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB183

(Question Serial No. 1212)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (603) Plant, Vehicles and Equipment

Programme: (1) Prison Management

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Correctional Services (WOO Ying-ming)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

1. Regarding the “replacement and enhancement of the closed circuit television (CCTV) system” in several prisons, please provide the work plan and estimated cash flow in the coming few years for each of the items from 806 to 809:

	Approved commitment	Estimated cash flow in 2019-20	Estimated cash flow in 2020-21	Estimated cash flow in 2021-22
806 Replacement and enhancement of the CCTV system for Cape Collinson Correctional Institution	55.45 million			
807 Replacement and enhancement of the CCTV system for Hei Ling Chau Correctional Institution	108.2 million			
808 Replacement	98.701 million			

and enhancement of the CCTV system for Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre				
809 Replacement and enhancement of the CCTV system for Lai Sun Correctional Institution	40.944 million			

2. Given that many of the existing old CCTV cameras have a narrower field of view which sometimes results in blind spots, does the Government plan to:

- i) update the systems with wide-angle (greater than 180 degrees) CCTV cameras, and
- ii) install CCTV systems in the Reception Office and Security Office where strip search is conducted?

3. Please provide the work plan and estimated cash flow in the coming few years for item 810 concerning the “installation of electric locks security system (ELSS) in Pik Uk Correctional Institution”;

4. The Government indicated in 2014 that “ELSS had been installed in parts in 14 of the 28 correctional facilities in Hong Kong”. Will the Government please provide a list of the correctional facilities in Hong Kong where ELSS has not been installed?

5. What measures will the Government adopt to ensure the stability of ELSS and prevent system failure or power supply problems?

Asked by: Hon AU Nok-hin (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

1. Regarding the item “replacement and enhancement of the closed circuit television (CCTV) system” in Cape Collinson Correctional Institution, Hei Ling Chau Correctional Institution, Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre and Lai Sun

Correctional Institution, the project estimate, work plan and estimated cash flow for the relevant works projects in the coming 3 years are tabulated below:

	Project estimate (\$)	Work plan	Estimated cash flow in 2019-20 (\$)	Estimated cash flow in 2020-21 (\$)	Estimated cash flow in 2021-22 (\$)
806 Replacement and enhancement of the CCTV system for Cape Collinson Correctional Institution	55.45 million	Proposed installation of a new and enhanced digital CCTV system and about 300 high resolution cameras.*	2.772 million	4.436 million	6.654 million
807 Replacement and enhancement of the CCTV system for Hei Ling Chau Correctional Institution	108.211 million	Proposed installation of a new and enhanced digital CCTV system and about 508 high resolution cameras.*	5.411 million	8.657 million	12.985 million
808 Replacement and enhancement of the CCTV system for Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre	98.701 million	Proposed installation of a new and enhanced digital CCTV system and about 580 high resolution cameras.*	4.935 million	7.896 million	11.844 million
809 Replacement and enhancement of the CCTV system for Lai Sun Correctional Institution	40.944 million	Proposed installation of a new and enhanced digital CCTV system and about 236 high resolution cameras.*	2.047 million	3.276 million	4.913 million

* The relevant systems will be installed with servers, video storage systems, network equipment and uninterrupted power supply etc. Some of the cameras will be equipped with video analytical function to help enhance institutional security.

- 2 i) Wide-angle (greater than 180 degrees) CCTV cameras cannot cover all the blind spots, such as locations that cannot be clearly captured by cameras due to the field of view being obscured by columns, gates and corners. In order to meet security needs, in its application for funding to replace and enhance CCTV systems in the institutions, the Correctional Services Department (CSD) will increase the number of CCTV cameras to cover the blind spots.
- ii) Having regard to security and operational needs, CSD will install CCTV in the appropriate locations within the institutions to ensure the safety of persons in custody (PICs) and correctional officers. These locations include certain areas of workshops (including kitchens), dayrooms, dormitories and Reception Offices (so-called “fingerprint rooms”) etc.

The Reception Office is equipped with facilities used in the admission procedure of PICs, including the Searching Room which is not installed with CCTV to protect the privacy of PICs being searched inside.

General offices of staff (including the office of the Reception Office), the Day Orderly Officer Office and the Security Office etc., are not installed with CCTV as they are not areas frequented by PICs and information pertaining to institutional operation is stored in these offices.

3. CSD proposes to install electric locks security system (ELSS) in Pik Uk Correctional Institution. The works project will involve modification of server rooms and installation of about 380 gates with electric locks, about 960 CCTV cameras (some of which will be equipped with facial recognition function), around 480 intercoms, electro-mechanical locking devices, server and associated parts, uninterrupted power supply system and charging devices, etc. The project estimate is \$219.4 million. The yearly estimated expenditures are tabulated below:

Financial year	Estimated Expenditure (\$)
2019-20	10.970 million
2020-21	17.552 million
2021-22	26.328 million
2022-23	32.910 million
2023-24	43.880 million
2024-25	87.760 million
Total	219.40 million

4. The progress of the installation of ELSS in the 28 correctional facilities in Hong Kong is as follows:
 - a) Lo Wu Correctional Institution and Tai Lam Centre for Women (redeveloped areas) are fully installed with ELSS;
 - b) Stanley Prison and Tai Lam Centre for Women (non-redevelopment areas) have obtained funding approval to fully install ELSS;

- c) The proposed full installation of ELSS in Pik Uk Correctional Institution is being pursued. The relevant funding proposal has been included in the Appropriation Bill 2019 submitted to the Legislative Council for approval;
 - d) ELSS has been installed in the designated areas of 12 correctional facilities (i.e. Pak Sha Wan Correctional Institution, Queen Elizabeth Hospital Custodial Ward, Queen Mary Hospital Custodial Ward, Hei Ling Chau Correctional Institution, Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre, Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre, Lai King Correctional Institution, Chi Lan Rehabilitation Centre, Pik Uk Prison, Shek Pik Prison, Siu Lam Psychiatric Centre and Tung Tau Correctional Institution); and
 - e) ELSS has not been installed in the remaining 12 correctional facilities (i.e. Tai Lam Correctional Institution, Nei Kwu Correctional Institution, Cape Collinson Correctional Institution, Sha Tsui Correctional Institution, Lai Chi Rehabilitation Centre, Tong Fuk Correctional Institution, Lai Hang Rehabilitation Centre, Phoenix House, Pelican House, Lai Sun Correctional Institution, Wai Lan Rehabilitation Centre and Bauhinia House).
5. ELSS has a highly reliable design. In the event of a single server failure, the back-up server will automatically generate a warning to notify the correctional officers on duty while obtaining system control to maintain normal operation. Hence, the impact of ordinary system malfunctions is insignificant, and the likelihood of a total system failure is extremely low.

In the event of a total system failure, correctional officers may maintain basic operation by using back-up keys in the same manner as the existing routine operation. Moreover, CSD has drawn up a series of contingency plans and instructions. All correctional officers will be briefed on these plans and instructions, and emergency exercises will be conducted regularly. In the event of continued power or system failure, correctional officers may immediately trigger the contingency plan according to the instructions to address problems caused by the failure and swiftly control and handle the emergency.

The system is equipped with uninterrupted power supply system and standby generator by design, and normal operation will not be disrupted by a power failure. Besides, CSD will switch the system to manual operation mode should power failure persist for more than half an hour.