

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB336

(Question Serial No. 5296)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Not Specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Please list the courses provided for persons in custody with education levels at primary 6 or below in the past 5 years and the current year by course names, durations and descriptions, as well as correctional facilities providing such courses.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.:2012)

Reply:

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) provides half-day compulsory education for young persons in custody (PICs) aged between 14 and 20, and arranges qualified teachers to teach the subjects. Teachers assess the academic levels of young PICs and help them learn in a progressive manner, having regard to the length of sentence. For PICs at primary level or below, correctional institutions provide them with appropriate guidance according to their ability.

The education courses currently provided by institutions for young PICs are similar to those provided in the past 5 years. Details are as follows:

Correctional Institution	Course Description	Course Duration
Pik Uk Correctional Institution	Secondary curriculum, including general and practical subjects such as Chinese, English, Mathematics, Liberal Studies and Computer Applications, etc., is provided.	Arrangements are made having regard to the length of sentence and individual cases.
Cape Collinson Correctional Institution		
Lai King Correctional Institution		
Lai Sun Correctional Institution	The New Senior Secondary curriculum is also provided for PICs at Pik Uk Correctional Institution, Cape Collinson Correctional Institution and Lai King Correctional Institution.	
Lai Chi Rehabilitation Centre	(1) The “Teen’s Programme” at the junior secondary level is provided. The curriculum covers basic education curriculum (including Chinese, English, Mathematics and Liberal Studies) and vocational training. The course is recognised by the Vocational Training Council. (2) Appropriate secondary curriculum is provided for PICs with higher academic qualifications.	(1) 120 hours of basic education curriculum and 180 hours of vocational training (2) Arrangements are made for individual cases.
Chi Lan Rehabilitation Centre		

Besides, CSD has introduced Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education and organised relevant educational activities in institutions for young PICs to arouse their interest in these learning areas and to enhance their creativity, coordination and problem-solving skills.

As regards adult PICs, CSD has been encouraging them to pursue further studies in their spare time, enrol in distance learning courses according to their interests and abilities, and take public examinations under the users-pay principle. Correctional institutions provide appropriate assistance to PICs. For example, CSD has set up a number of education funds and subsidy schemes for PICs to apply for financial assistance if they want to pursue further studies but have difficulties in paying for public examination fees, tuition fees for distance learning courses or purchasing reference books. These funds and subsidy schemes are contributed by donations from charitable organisations and the community.