

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB338

(Question Serial No. 5298)

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 education courses provided for persons in custody (PICs) in the past 5 years and the current year by course names, target PICs, course durations and descriptions, as well as correctional facilities providing such courses and the expenditures involved.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 2014)

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. 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 Application, 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.	

Correctional Institution	Course Description	Course Duration
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.	(1) 120 hours of basic education curriculum and 180 hours of vocational training
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.

CSD also encourages adult PICs to pursue further studies, enrol in distance learning courses in their spare time 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.

CSD’s expenditure on education is mainly used on education provided for young PICs. The relevant expenditures in the past 5 years are tabulated below:

Year	2014-15 (Actual expenditure)	2015-16 (Actual expenditure)	2016-17 (Actual expenditure)	2017-18 (Actual expenditure)	2018-19 (Revised estimate)
Expenditure on education (\$ million)	34.30	34.33	34.89	35.80	37.56

On vocational training, CSD, having regard to the situation of the local employment market, worked with various training bodies such as the Employees Retraining Board, the Construction Industry Council and the Vocational Training Council to provide lawfully residing adult PICs who are due for discharge within 3 to 24 months and eligible for employment with more than 1 400 training places of over 40 full-time and part-time vocational training courses for enrolment on a voluntary basis each year in the past 5 years.

These courses covered a wide range of industries such as construction, business, food and beverage, retail, beauty care, transport, logistics, laundry services, computer application and environmental services, etc. CSD regularly reviews the courses with individual sectors and introduce various new courses. The new courses offered in recent years include Foundation Certificate in Plumber Training for Interior Renovation (Intermediate Trade Test), Foundation Certificate in Pet Sitter, Foundation Certificate in Preparation for Intermediate Trade Test for Floor Layer (Timber Flooring) of Interior Renovation and Foundation Certificate in AutoCAD in Renovation Drawings, etc. In 2019-20, there will be new courses such as Virtual Reality Welding, Virtual Reality Visual Merchandising and Retail Management as well as Car Beauty. The above courses will be conducted at 11 correctional institutions, i.e. Stanley Prison, Tung Tau Correctional Institution, Pak Sha Wan Correctional Institution, Pik Uk Prison, Tai Lam Correctional Institution, Lo Wu Correctional Institution, Tong Fuk Correctional Institution, Shek Pik Prison, Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre, Hei Ling Chau Correctional Institution and Nei Kwu Correctional Institution. Eligible adult PICs could enrol in these courses on a voluntary basis and sit for the relevant examinations so as to obtain recognised qualifications, thereby enhancing their employability and helping them enrol in bridging or progressive courses in future with a view to facilitating their smooth re-integration into society after release.

For young PICs, CSD provides 20 compulsory half-day vocational training courses apart from half-day compulsory education. The courses cover information technology, construction, business, food and beverage, retail, beauty care, laundry services and service industries, etc. In recent years, new elements including Installation of Smart Home System as well as Interior Design and 3D Rendering have been introduced to its courses. The duration of courses ranges from 2 to 6 months. Arrangements are made to facilitate the trainees to sit for the examinations held by the accreditation bodies, such as the certification examinations of the City and Guilds of London Institute and the intermediate trade tests of the Construction Industry Council, and take certificate courses offered by various training bodies.

CSD's expenditures on vocational training are tabulated below:

Year	2014-15 (Actual expenditure)	2015-16 (Actual expenditure)	2016-17 (Actual expenditure)	2017-18 (Actual expenditure)	2018-19 (Revised estimate)
Expenditure on vocational training (\$ million)	30.05	31.01	28.07	28.51	28.74

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