

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB357

(Question Serial No. 7093)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Prison Management

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The Correctional Services Department states in the Estimates that it will “explore the application of technology and other measures for enhancing daily operation of correctional institutions”. Please tabulate the following information:

Correctional institution	Enhancement required for daily operation of correctional institution	Study approach	Expenditure involved	Estimated year of completion of study

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.:8632)

Reply:

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) has been proactively developing “Smart Prison”. The applied technology projects being implemented or studied are tabulated below:

Correctional institution	Enhancement required for daily operation of correctional institution	Study approach	Expenditure involved	Estimated year of completion of study
All correctional institutions	<p>In 2016, CSD was granted funding by the Legislative Council to develop the Integrated Custodial and Rehabilitation Management System (iCRMS) and to enhance the capacity of the existing information technology infrastructure, so as to improve the operational efficiency in the long run and to provide a good foundation for CSD's use of innovation and technology in the future. The relevant project includes establishing a core network, and enhancing network safety and flexibility of network connection. This project will facilitate the further setting up of an Internet of Things network required for "Smart Prison". In addition, the iCRMS will establish a single platform for centralised data and business application to increase the operational and recovery capacity of the system, with greater flexibility and expansion capacity for developing "Smart Prison", and to lay a foundation for data analysis and development of CSD.</p>	<p>CSD and Office of the Government Chief Information Officer jointly study, analyse, design and implement the project.</p>	<p>A non-recurrent expenditure of about \$352.75 million.</p>	<p>The project is in the stage of software design and system upgrade. The whole project is expected to come into operation in 2023.</p>

Correctional institution	Enhancement required for daily operation of correctional institution	Study approach	Expenditure involved	Estimated year of completion of study
4 dormitories of Pik Uk Prison	<p>Correctional officers are currently required to carry out patrols and conduct visual checks on persons in custody (PICs) at intervals of not more than 15 or 20 minutes after PICs return to their cells, to ensure the discipline and safety of PICs.</p>	<p>CSD and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) jointly develop the system.</p>	<p>The non-recurrent expenditure on system technological development is about \$1.56 million.</p>	<p>The system is being tested and its efficacy will be evaluated in the second quarter of this year.</p>
22 dormitories, 6 observation cells and the centre hospital of Pik Uk Prison	<p>Although the existing mechanism has ensured that PICs are closely monitored after the lock-up, some PICs may still commit acts of indiscipline or inflict self-harm during the intervals between patrols.</p> <p>CSD plans to introduce the “Video Analytic Monitoring System”, which can help monitor abnormal behaviours and acts of indiscipline of PICs. The System will compare the preset behaviour patterns with the real-time images collected by closed circuit television (CCTV) to detect particular types of abnormal behaviours, including suicide by hanging, self-harm by banging against the wall and fighting. If any preset pattern of abnormal behaviour is detected, the System will instantly raise an alarm to alert the correctional officers on</p>		<p>A funding of about \$9.64 million has been reserved under the TechConnect (which is a Block Vote) of the Innovation and Technology Bureau.</p>	<p>The project is expected to be completed in 2021.</p>

Correctional institution	Enhancement required for daily operation of correctional institution	Study approach	Expenditure involved	Estimated year of completion of study
	duty for immediate follow-up action to ensure that PICs are constantly under close supervision between patrols.			
Designated Passages of Lo Wu Correctional Institution	<p>At present, correctional officers are required to manually count the number of PICs inside correctional institutions on a regular basis to ensure no escape occurs. Besides, PICs must be escorted by correctional officers for their movement (i.e. moving from one place to another) inside institutions and every movement is recorded for tracing their locations.</p> <p>CSD plans to introduce the “Passage Surveillance System” to allow correctional officers to grasp the real-time locations of PICs and monitor their movement with a view to minimising the risk of escape and enhancing correctional officers’ readiness in emergency response.</p>	CSD and EMSD jointly develop the system.	The expenditure on system technological development is about \$2.43 million.	System testing has started at the end of March this year and its efficacy will be evaluated in the third quarter of this year.
Centre hospital of Lo Wu Correctional Institution	Correctional officers are currently required to carry out patrols and conduct visual checks on PICs at intervals of not more than 15 minutes after PICs return to their cells, to			
2 halls and the centre			A funding of about \$9.19	The project is expected

Correctional institution	Enhancement required for daily operation of correctional institution	Study approach	Expenditure involved	Estimated year of completion of study
hospital of Stanley Prison, the centre hospital of Tai Lam Centre for Women, and the sickbay and geriatric ward of Siu Lam Psychiatric Centre	<p>observe the physical conditions of PICs with medical and nursing needs. Although the existing mechanism has ensured that PICs are closely monitored upon returning to their cells, we could not preclude the possibility that the physical conditions of some PICs may suddenly become abnormal after each patrol.</p> <p>CSD explores the introduction of the “Health Signs Monitoring System”, which can monitor heart rates, for monitoring the physical conditions of PICs with medical and nursing needs, including those who have self-harm and suicide propensity. After consulting the Medical Officer of the institutions, the Department will arrange those PICs to wear “smart wristbands” to monitor their heart rates. If any abnormalities of heart rates are detected, the System will instantly raise an alarm to alert the correctional officers on duty for immediate follow-up action.</p>		million has been reserved under the TechConnect (which is a Block Vote) of the Innovation and Technology Bureau.	to be completed in 2021.