

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB320

(Question Serial No. 0566)

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:

1. What is the respective average cost incurred per month for taking care of an inmate in prisons, training centres, detention centres, rehabilitation centres and drug addiction treatment centres? Please provide a breakdown of the cost incurred for taking care of an inmate in various institutions (including staff remuneration, facilities and maintenance, meals and basic necessities, education and vocational training, psychological counselling and welfare services, recreational activities, health care).
2. What were the average meal expenses per day per person in custody in the past 3 years?
3. What is the respective list of basic daily commodities (including items and quantities) provided by the Correctional Services Department (CSD) for male and female persons in custody (PICs)?
4. In connection with the above question, what are the criteria for determining the above lists of basic daily commodities? How does CSD assess whether the above basic daily commodities provided are sufficient to meet the needs of PICs?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 86)

Reply:

1. The expenditures and estimates for Prison Management are tabulated below:

Year	2017-2018 (Actual Expenditure)	2018-2019 (Actual Expenditure)	2019-2020 (Revised Estimate)	2020-2021 (Estimate)
\$ billion	2.8222	2.9834	3.1917	3.4022

In addition to detaining persons in custody (PICs), the daily operation of the Correctional Services Department (CSD) includes other related work and services that are not institution-specific, e.g. escort of PICs to and from courts and hospitals, provision of medical, welfare and aftercare services, etc. As such, it is difficult to calculate the cost of custody of a PIC.

2. The actual expenditures on “Provisions for institutions” of CSD in the past 3 years are as follows:

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Actual expenditure on “Provisions for institutions” (\$ million)	78.00	78.83	73.73

The average cost of food material per day per PIC was about \$24.6 in the past 3 years.

3. CSD provides male and female PICs with daily commodities, including toiletries and hygiene items (such as combs, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet paper, sanitary napkins (for female PICs only), etc.) to ensure personal hygiene.
4. CSD provides PICs with basic necessities, a reasonable living environment and sufficient custodial care in accordance with the law. It is also ensured that they receive proper and fair treatment according to fair, lawful and reasonable principles. On the first day of admission into a correctional institution, every PIC is provided with daily commodities, which are supplemented or replaced on a regular basis. If additional daily commodities are needed, PICs can make a request to staff members who will make appropriate arrangements having regard to the actual circumstances. Moreover, PICs may use their earnings obtained from work to purchase additional daily commodities, while remand persons are allowed to receive approved hand-in articles from visitors.

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