

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB732

(Question Serial No. 5740)

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 by the Correctional Services Department for persons in custody of other nationalities who do not speak English or Chinese in the past 5 years and the current year with a breakdown by course name, course duration, course description, the correctional facilities providing such courses and the expenditures involved.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 567)

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 of other nationalities who need help, correctional institutions, having regard to individual circumstances, provide them with appropriate assistance as far as practicable, for example production of foundation learning materials in their native languages with English or Chinese translations.

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	

Correctional Institution	Course Description	Course Duration
	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.	(1) 120 hours of basic education curriculum and 180 hours of vocational training.
Chi Lan Rehabilitation Centre	(2) Appropriate secondary curriculum is provided for PICs with higher academic qualifications.	(2) Arrangements are made for individual cases.

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

Year	2015-16 (Actual expenditure)	2016-17 (Actual expenditure)	2017-18 (Actual expenditure)	2018-19 (Actual expenditure)	2019-20 (Revised estimate)
Expenditure on education (\$ million)	34.33	34.89	35.80	37.89	40.11

The Department encourages adult PICs, including PICs of other nationalities, to 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 meet the needs of individual PICs. For example, the Department 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.

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