

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**SB739**

**(Question Serial No. 5747)**

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 inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) How often the dietary scales of persons in custody are updated?
- (2) When was the last update conducted and what standards are adopted in the design of dietary scales?
- (3) Are there any designated officers to examine the food quality of each meal?
- (4) The relevant expenditures in the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 574)

Reply:

In accordance with Section 24A of the Prisons Ordinance (Cap. 234), the Correctional Services Department (CSD) provides persons in custody (PICs) with plain and wholesome food. The various dietary scales currently provided by CSD are designed by dietitians and approved by the Department of Health. The scales meet the nutritional needs of PICs. Meals are prepared by PICs under the guidance of qualified Catering Instructors. To ensure food quality, the Day Orderly Officer and senior officers of institutions will inspect and taste the food daily before meals are distributed. Under the new 3-year ration contracts which came into effect in 2017-18, healthier food materials such as skinless chicken have been introduced. Also, the portions of side vegetables (such as onion, tomato and carrot) and natural spices (such as curry powder and ginger powder) have been increased to replace high salt food materials (such as preserved vegetables), etc.

CSD's actual expenditures on the "Provisions for institutions" in the past 5 years are as follows:

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Actual expenditure on “Provisions for institutions” (\$ million)	89.00	77.22	78.00	78.83	73.73

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