Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21 Reply Serial No.

SB768

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 6398)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (1) Prison Management

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Please provide the following figures in the past 5 years:

1. The average meal expenses per meal per person for ethnic Chinese persons in custody (PICs), and a breakdown by types of food.

2. The average meal expenses per meal per person for non-ethnic Chinese PICs, and a breakdown by types of food.

3. The average meal expenses per meal per person provided by the Correctional Services Department to correctional officers during work hours, and a breakdown by types of food.

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 265)

Reply:

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) attaches great importance to racial equality. No persons in custody (PICs) will be treated differently with regard to their race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin, including meal arrangements for PICs. Hence, CSD does not have the relevant information on meal expenses of PICs of individual ethnic groups. In accordance with Section 24A of the Prisons Ordinance (Cap. 234), CSD provides PICs with plain and wholesome food. The variety and portion of dietary scales (the 4 main dietary scales including local staple rice diet, diet of curries and chapatti, diet of bread and potatoes, and vegetarian diet) currently provided by CSD are designed by dietitians and approved by the Department of Health. The scales meet the nutritional needs of PICs. Non-vegetarian PICs are provided with an appropriate amount of meat in their daily meals. The types of meat include pork, beef, fish, skinless chicken, chicken wings, etc. Prices of all dietary scales are more or less the same. The average cost of food material per day per person is about $24.6.

In accordance with the Civil Service Regulations, an officer who is on duty for a continuous period of 12 hours or more in any period of 24 hours may receive a local subsistence

allowance. In general, the duty hours of CSD staff do not meet this requirement. Therefore, the Department does not have relevant statistics on the average expenditure on subsistence allowance per staff per day.

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