

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**SB119**

**(Question Serial No. 2862)**

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: ()

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Correctional Services (WONG Kwok-hing)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The Correctional Services Department has all along been providing diversified vocational training programmes, having regard to the situation of the local employment market. The success of rehabilitated persons in re-integrating into society, however, still hinges on community acceptance. In this connection, please provide:

1. the numbers and proportions of persons in custody (PICs) being accepted by society after their return to the community in the past 3 years;
2. the manpower deployed and expenditures incurred in launching publicity to support PICs' re-integration into society in the past 3 years.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chun-ying (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

1. The Correctional Services Department (CSD) accords great importance to the employment needs of rehabilitated persons, and has been striving to enhance their employability and assist them in securing suitable jobs through various means, with a view to facilitating their smooth re-integration into society after discharge.

Among the rehabilitated persons provided with vocational training by CSD, the numbers who completed the six-month employment follow-up upon release and their employment rates within the same period in the past 3 years are tabulated as follows:

	2020	2021	2022
Number of rehabilitated persons having successfully completed the six-month employment follow-up upon release	448	327	489
Employment rate of rehabilitated persons within 6 months of employment follow-up period upon release	83.5%	81.0%	82.6%

2. The departmental expenses incurred by CSD on organising publicity and educational programmes to promote community acceptance of and support for rehabilitated persons in the past 3 years are as follows:

Year	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 <sup>^</sup>
Total departmental expenses	\$1,653,336	\$2,315,981	\$1,124,198

<sup>^</sup>Affected by the COVID-19 epidemic, some of the publicity and educational programmes had to be cancelled.

There were 15 staff members on average responsible for publicity work in each of the past 3 years.

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