Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2023-24 Reply Serial No.

SB120

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 0459)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Prison Management

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

1) Regarding the concerted acts of indiscipline committed in 2021 and 2022, please provide the details of each case, including the institution involved, the number of participating persons in custody (PICs), the number of correctional officers deployed, the causes, and the number of PICs punished for committing acts of indiscipline.

2) Has any review of the above cases been conducted, so that the management policies and measures can be adjusted to prevent recurrence of similar cases? If yes, what are the outcome of the review and related measures? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.:17)

Reply:

1) Details of the cases of concerted acts of indiscipline in 2021 and 2022 are as follows:

Year	**Institution**	**Number of participating persons in custody (PICs)**	**Number of correctional officers deployed#**	**Cause**
2022	Hei Ling Chau Correctional Institution	9	26	Fight
	Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre	8	34	Fight
	Tai Lam Correctional Institution	7	26	Fight

	Tai Tam Gap Correctional Institution	6	28	Hunger strike against management measures
	Stanley Prison	10	27	Fight
2021	Tung Tau Correctional Institution	26	54	Making requests against management measures
	Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre	10	12	Fight
	Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre	8	2	Fight
	Lo Wu Correctional Institution	18	21	Making requests against management measures
	Tai Tam Gap Correctional Institution	10	34	Hunger strike against management measures
	Tung Tau Correctional Institution	6	5	Hunger strike against management measures
	Tai Tam Gap Correctional Institution	24	25	Hunger strike against management measures
	Pik Uk Correctional Institution	16	3	Fight

Number of officers deployed includes officers on duty in the institutions who took immediate actions to address the incidents and additional manpower deployed by the Correctional Services Department (CSD) to render support to the institution concerned having regard to the nature and gravity of individual cases.

All the PICs participating in the above cases of concerted acts of indiscipline were subject to punishment (including disciplinary charges or verbal warnings), removal from association with other PICs, or referral to the Police for investigation and follow-up due to the gravity of the cases.

2) According to our information, most of the PICs involved in the above cases of concerted acts of indiscipline had triad backgrounds, record of drug abuse or repeated imprisonment. They usually incited other PICs to get involved in collective actions or fighting in an attempt to establish their sphere of influence or resist the management measures or actions taken by

the management to combat illicit activities. The causes of these cases and the modus operandis adopted by the PICs were similar to those of previous incidents.

CSD will continue to strengthen intelligence collection and carry out special searching operations to ensure that all illicit activities are nipped in the bud. CSD will also tackle illicit or indiscipline acts decisively and promptly so as to prevent situations from deteriorating. CSD may take disciplinary actions against the persons involved or report the cases to the Police for follow-up, having regard to the nature and gravity of the cases. It may also order individual PICs involved to be removed from association for the maintenance of good order and discipline in the institutions in accordance with the law. Besides, in case of an emergency in a correctional facility, the Regional Response Team (RRT) will arrive at the institution promptly to provide immediate tactical support to the institutional management in a bid to bring the situation under control and prevent it from further deteriorating. In 2023, CSD will provide additional training facilities and equipment in the training base of RRT to enhance team members' tactical skills and emergency response capability.

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