

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB121

(Question Serial No. 0460)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Re-integration

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

- 1) Please provide the following information regarding correctional education including vocational training in the past 5 years:
- the correctional institutions providing correctional education including vocational training and their respective numbers of places provided;
 - the courses or categories of educational/vocational training provided under the above-mentioned correctional education, and the expenditures involved in providing the courses;
 - whether the Department has co-organised any courses with other groups and organisations? If yes, what are the details?
 - the number of young persons in custody (PICs) engaged in education in each of the correctional institutions, and the percentage of these PICs of the total number of young PICs in each of the institutions.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) provides half-day compulsory education for young persons in custody (PICs) aged between 14 and 20, and arranges for qualified teachers to teach the subjects. Details of the education courses provided by institutions for young PICs in the past 5 years 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, Life and Society, Chinese History and Computer Application, is provided.	Arrangements are made having regard to the length of sentence and individual cases.
Sha Tsui Correctional Institution		
Lai King Correctional Institution		

Correctional Institution	Course Description	Course Duration
Lai Sun Correctional Institution	The Senior Secondary curriculum is also provided for PICs at Pik Uk Correctional Institution, Sha Tsui Correctional Institution and Lai King Correctional Institution.	
Lai Chi Rehabilitation Centre	(1) The “Teen’s Programme” at the junior secondary level is provided, covering basic education curriculum (including Chinese, English, Mathematics, and Life and Society) and vocational training. The programme is recognised by the Vocational Training Council (VTC). (2) Appropriate secondary curriculum is provided for PICs with higher academic qualifications.	(1) 120 hours of basic education curriculum and 180 hours of vocational training. (2) Arrangements are made for individual cases.
Chi Lan Rehabilitation Centre		

Besides, CSD has introduced Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education in the above 6 institutions for young PICs to foster their creativity, coordination and problem-solving skills. Meanwhile, national education is provided through the education programme entitled “Understanding History is the Beginning of Knowledge” to assist PICs to learn Chinese history and culture, and enhance their sense of national identity, thereby helping them establish the correct values and reflect on the meaning of life, so that they can get back on track.

CSD also encourages adult PICs to pursue further studies in their spare time by enrolling in distance learning courses according to their interests and abilities, and take public examinations under the users-pay principle. Correctional institutions would provide appropriate assistance to PICs. For example, CSD 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 examination or tuition fees, or for purchase of reference books in respect of public examinations and distance learning courses. These funds and subsidy schemes are contributed by donations from charitable organisations and the community.

CSD’s expenditure on education is mainly spent on education provided for young PICs. The relevant expenditures in the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

Year	2018-19 (Actual expenditure)	2019-20 (Actual expenditure)	2020-21 (Actual expenditure)	2021-22 (Actual expenditure)	2022-23 (Revised estimate)
Expenditure on education (\$ million)	37.89	40.05	40.64	41.91	42.65

CSD provides education to all convicted young PICs. The numbers of young PICs who received education in correctional institutions in the past 5 years are as follows:

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of young PICs	373	304	287	510	417

On vocational training, CSD has been collaborating with various training bodies (including the Employees Retraining Board, the Construction Industry Council and VTC, etc.), having regard to the situation of the local employment market, to provide over 40 vocational training courses with more than 1 400 full-time and part-time training places for lawfully residing adult PICs who are due for discharge within 24 months and eligible for employment to enrol on a voluntary basis and obtain recognised qualifications after taking relevant examinations, thereby enhancing their employability and helping them enrol in bridging or progressive courses in the future, with a view to facilitating their re-integration into society after release. These courses cover a wide range of industries such as construction, engineering, business, food and beverage, retail, beauty care, transport, logistics, laundry services, computer application and environmental services, etc. The above courses are provided in 11 correctional institutions, including Stanley Prison, Tung Tau Correctional Institution, Pak Sha Wan Correctional Institution, Pik Uk Prison, Tai Lam Correctional Institution, Lo Wu Correctional Institution, Tong Fuk Correctional Institution, Shek Pik Prison, Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre, Hei Ling Chau Correctional Institution and Nei Kwu Correctional Institution.

As for young PICs, CSD currently provides 13 half-day vocational training courses for all young PICs, covering commercial practice, creative multimedia production, coffee house operations, Western pastry and dessert making, building services and beauty care, etc. The above courses are provided in 6 correctional institutions for young offenders (including Pik Uk Correctional Institution, Lai King Correctional Institution, Chi Lan Rehabilitation Centre, Lai Chi Rehabilitation Centre, Lai Sun Correctional Institution and Sha Tsui Correctional Institution).

The numbers of vocational training places provided in correctional institutions in the past 5 financial years are tabulated as follows:

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Stanley Prison	150	142	142	150	162
Tung Tau Correctional Institution	110	100	85	90	20
Pak Sha Wan Correctional Institution	100	130	140	127	130
Pik Uk Prison	130	120	140	141	131
Tai Lam Correctional Institution	221	221	213	201	211

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Lo Wu Correctional Institution	218	214	229	232	249
Tong Fuk Correctional Institution	188	183	183	189	184
Shek Pik Prison	85	85	82	82	94
Hei Ling Chau Addiction Treatment Centre	140	152	134	129	141
Hei Ling Chau Correctional Institution	55	55	55	52	82
Nei Kwu Correctional Institution	50	50	35	32	32
Total number of training places	1 447	1 452	1 438	1 425	1 436

CSD's expenditures on vocational training in the past 5 financial years are tabulated as follows:

Year	2018-19 (Actual expenditure)	2019-20 (Actual expenditure)	2020-21 (Actual expenditure)	2021-22 (Actual expenditure)	2022-23 (Revised estimate)
Expenditure on vocational training courses (\$ million)	28.74	30.29	30.38	29.9	30.45

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