

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB124

(Question Serial No. 0727)

Head: (30) Correctional Services Department

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

Programme:

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding the staff establishment and application of technology of the Correctional Services Department (CSD), would the Government advise on the following:

1. The establishment and strength of CSD staff of different ranks (including but not limited to Assistant Officer II, Assistant Officer I, Officer, Principal Officer, Chief Officer, Superintendent, Senior Superintendent) in the past 3 years, with a breakdown by correctional facility;
2. The following information regarding CSD staff of different ranks (including but not limited to Assistant Officer II, Assistant Officer I, Officer, Principal Officer, Chief Officer, Superintendent, Senior Superintendent) in the past 3 years: (i) the wastage figure and wastage rate, with a breakdown by the cause of wastage (including but not limited to retirement, resignation, transfer, dismissal, death); (ii) the average year of service of the above wastage; (iii) the number of new recruits; and (iv) the positive (negative) growth rate, with a breakdown by correctional facility; and
3. Regarding the CSD's vigorous development of "smart training" and "smart prison", what are the specific measures and estimated expenditure involved in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon CHOW Man-kong (LegCo internal reference no.: 18)

Reply:

1. The establishment and strength of disciplined staff ^{Note 1} of the Correctional Services Department (CSD) in the past 3 financial years are tabulated as follows: (Since a breakdown by correctional facility involves CSD's operational deployment details, it is not appropriate to disclose such information.)

		2020-21 financial year (as at 31 March 2021)	2021-22 financial year (as at 31 March 2022)	2022-23 financial year (as at 28 February 2023)
Commander rank	Staff establishment	9	9	9
	Strength	7	7	7
Officer rank	Staff establishment	1 110	1 119	1 122
	Strength	1 073	1 090	1 064
Rank and file	Staff establishment	5 019	5 128	5 128
	Strength	4 552	4 575	4 466

Note 1: Technical Instructors and Instructors are not included.

2. (i) The wastage figures^{Note 2} and wastage rates of disciplined staff of CSD in the past 3 financial years are tabulated as follows: (Since a breakdown by correctional facility involves CSD's operational deployment details, it is not appropriate to disclose such information.)

Commander rank

Financial year	Natural wastage	Other wastage	Total	Wastage rate
2020-21	2	0	2	40%
2021-22	1	0	1	14.3%
2022-23 ^{Note 3}	3	0	3	42.9%
Total	6	0	6	

Officer rank

Financial year	Natural wastage	Other wastage	Total	Wastage rate
2020-21	36	10	46	4.3%
2021-22	33	20	53	4.9%
2022-23 ^{Note 3}	24	18	42	3.9%
Total	93	48	141	

Rank and file

Financial year	Natural wastage	Other wastage	Total	Wastage rate
2020-21	120	177	297	6.4%
2021-22	109	79	188	4.1%
2022-23 ^{Note 3}	125	99	224	4.8%
Total	354	355	709	

Note 2: Total wastage includes natural and other wastage. Natural wastage includes retirement and early retirement; other wastage includes resignation, transfer, death, early retirement on invalidating and compulsory retirement, etc.

Note 3: As at 28 February 2023.

- (ii) CSD does not maintain statistics on the average year of service of its staff wastage.
 (iii) The number of new recruits; and (iv) the positive (negative) growth rate are tabulated as follows:

Post	Number of new recruits in the financial year (positive/negative growth rate calculated by comparing the number of new recruits with the wastage figure in the financial year)		
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 ^{Note 4}
Officer	37 (-29.7%)	60 (+10%)	6 ^{Note 4} (-650%)
Assistant Officer II	306 (+2.94%)	253 (+25.7%)	157 ^{Note 4} (-42.7%)

Note 4: As at 28 February 2023. Affected by the fifth wave of the COVID-19 epidemic, the recruitment exercise conducted in the financial year had to be delayed, with some of the recruitment procedures still in progress. As such, the figures do not fully reflect the number of new recruits to be appointed later.

3. Specific measures adopted by the Department to develop “smart training” and “smart prison” are as follows:

Regarding the development of “smart training”, the Department plans to seek funding of \$462.5 million from the Legislative Council to redevelop the existing multi-purpose gymnasium of the Hong Kong Correctional Services Academy. Subject to funding approval of the Finance Committee, construction of the proposed project is estimated to commence in the second quarter of 2023. The multi-purpose gymnasium after redevelopment will provide a number of “smart training” facilities such as virtual reality training rooms and a simulated reality firing range, etc. in addition to the existing “smart training” facilities so as to strengthen trainees’ emergency response.

Regarding the development of “smart prison”, CSD will continue to introduce technological elements into correctional facilities to enhance operational efficiency in 2023-24, including launching the “Integrated Custodial and Rehabilitation Management System” in all correctional facilities and progressively installing the “Persons in Custody Integrated Intelligent Communication System” and the “Contactless Vital Sign Monitoring System”, etc.

in different institutions. The relevant projects and estimated expenditures are tabulated as follows:

Technology project	Correctional institution involved	Estimated non-recurrent expenditure on technological development (\$)	Non-recurrent expenditure on technological development to be incurred in 2023-24 (\$)
(1) Integrated Custodial and Rehabilitation Management System			
“Integrated Custodial and Rehabilitation Management System”	All CSD’s institutions	About 353 million ¹	About 92.34 million
(2) Security and Monitoring System			
“Video Analytic Monitoring System” with a movement and location tracking function	Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre	About 8.5 million ²	About 5.7 million
“Persons in Custody Escort and Monitoring System”	Escort and Support Group	About 4.64 million ³	About 4.13 million
“Electric Locks Security System” with a facial recognition function	Pik Uk Correctional Institution	About 219 million ³	About 29.25 million
(3) Operation and Management System			
“Contactless Vital Sign Monitoring System”	Siu Lam Psychiatric Centre and the protected rooms in 7 correctional institutions	About 11.4 million ²	About 7.35 million
“Central Control Centre System” and “Geographic Information System”	New Correctional Services Department Headquarters	About 64.73 million ⁴	About \$860,000
(4) Persons in Custody Self-management System			
“Persons in Custody Integrated Intelligent Communication System”	Designated locations in 19 correctional institutions/facilities	About 125 million ⁴	About 2.11 million
“Persons in Custody e-Message Platform”	Category A Complex of Stanley Prison	About 4.32 million ⁵	About 3.15 million
Total		About 791 million	About 145 million

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Sources of funding for non-recurrent expenditure on technological development:

¹ Head 710 Computerisation under Capital Works Reserve Fund (CWRF)

² TechConnect (block vote) under Innovation, Technology and Industry Bureau and Head 30 – Capital Account of Correctional Services Department

³ Head 30 – Capital Account of Correctional Services Department

⁴ Head 708 Capital Subventions and Major Systems and Equipment under CWRF

⁵ Head 710 Computerisation (block vote) under CWRF