

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB132

(Question Serial No. 1427)

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:

Regarding the Indicators of Prison Management, the average daily number of persons in custody (PICs) under Prison Programme in 2022 was 7 216, while the average daily number of PICs under re-integration cum supervision programmes in the same year was only 746, accounting for about a tenth of the total number. In this regard, would the Department inform this Committee of the following:

- a) Whether the percentage of PICs participating re-integration cum supervision programmes has remained low at a tenth for a long period of time? If yes, what are the reasons?
- b) Please provide in detail the relevant percentages in the past 5 years.
- c) Whether there are sufficient resources for providing re-integration services for PICs? What is the actual number of staff involved in the work? What were the financial resources put into the work over the years?

Asked by: Hon LUK Hon-man, Benson (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

- (a) Currently, not all persons in custody (PICs) are subject to statutory supervision after release. According to the laws of Hong Kong, only rehabilitated persons released from drug addiction treatment centres, training centres, detention centres and rehabilitation centres and those released under various statutory supervision schemes (i.e. young PICs under the Prison Programme, Release Under Supervision Scheme, Pre-release Employment Scheme, Post-release Supervision Scheme, Conditional Release Scheme and Supervision After Release Scheme) have to undergo statutory supervision by the Correctional Services Department (CSD). As for those rehabilitated persons not included in the above statutory supervision schemes, CSD may, according to their wishes, refer them to voluntary organisations for follow-up after release.

(b) The relevant figures in the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Average daily number of PICs	8 303	7 737	6 902	7 616	7 613
Average daily number of PICs under re-integration cum supervision programmes	917	678	577	746	734

(c) The staff establishment and related expenditures of CSD under the Re-integration Programme in the past 5 financial years are tabulated as follows:

	Staff establishment	Expenditure (\$ billion)
2018-2019	1 601	1.0777
2019-2020	1 608	1.1398
2020-2021	1 618	1.1137
2021-2022	1 618	1.1499
2022-2023	1 618	1.2058 (revised estimate)

In recent years, CSD has launched various rehabilitation programmes, and established close collaboration with about 100 non-governmental organisations and groups to assist PICs in turning over a new leaf and re-integrating into society.

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