

SB142

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1204)

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:

Last year, the number of admissions to correctional institutions was 18 990, representing an increase of 3% as compared with 2024. Currently, the average daily occupancy rates of 6 correctional institutions exceed 100%. The Department is addressing this issue by deploying the capacity of correctional institutions and carrying out the in-situ partial redevelopment of Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre. It also plans to install the Automatic Drone Patrol and Monitoring System 2.0 in 6 maximum security institutions. In this regard, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. What is the total estimated expenditure on the redevelopment of Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre? Is the expenditure on this project to be met by the Correctional Services Department (CSD)'s existing provision, or does the project involve additional resources? How many additional places are expected to be created after the redevelopment?
2. What were the total expenditures of CSD on improving institutional facilities (including measures such as replacing and installing over 1 800 fans, introducing solar control window films and cooling coatings, etc.) in the past 3 financial years? What is the estimated expenditure on such facilities upgrading in 2026-27?
3. CSD plans to install the Automatic Drone Patrol and Monitoring System 2.0 in 6 maximum security institutions. What is the expenditure involved in the procurement and installation of such system? What are the manpower and related administrative costs expected to be saved each year?

Asked by: Hon FAN Hoi-kit, Alex (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

1. The total estimated expenditure on the redevelopment of Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre is \$5.5068 billion (in money-of-the-day prices), which is funded by the provision under the Capital Works Reserve Fund. After the redevelopment, the capacity of the Lai Chi Kok Reception Centre will be increased by 410 places to a total of 1 894 places.

2. The total expenditures of the Correctional Services Department (CSD) on improving institutional facilities (including replacing and installing fans, introducing solar control window films and cooling coatings etc., enhancing closed circuit television systems and installing electric locks security systems, repairing and maintaining various other systems and equipment, as well as upgrading hardware facilities) in the past 3 financial years are tabulated as follows:

Financial year	Total expenditure on improving and maintaining institutional facilities (\$ million)
2023-24 (Actual)	353.3
2024-25 (Actual)	401.0
2025-26 (Revised estimate)	475.9

The estimated expenditure of CSD on the improvement and maintenance work of institutional facilities in 2026-27 is \$496.3 million. In addition, the Architectural Services Department and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department provide routine improvement and maintenance services for the institutional facilities of CSD in a timely manner to meet the actual needs, and the related expenditure has not been included in the amount stated above.

3. CSD plans to install the Automatic Drone Patrol and Monitoring System 2.0 in 6 maximum security institutions and the estimated expenditure involved in the procurement and installation is \$5.48 million. Such initiative aims to help enhance the operational efficiency and security level of institutions. Besides, it is expected that the application of such system can also optimise the prevailing work processes and partly reduce the patrol time of correctional officers, thereby enabling CSD to deploy manpower more flexibly for handling other work.

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