

**Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security
Session No. : 9**

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
S-SB01	SV014	CHAN Hak-kan	151	Internal Security
S-SB02	S041	TO Kun-sun, James	122	Operations
S-SB03	S042	TO Kun-sun, James	122	Operations
S-SB04	SV015	TO Kun-sun, James	122	Operations
S-SB05	SV016	CHAN Kin-por	70	Control after Entry
S-SB06	S033	TO Kun-sun, James	70	Control upon Entry
S-SB07	S034	TO Kun-sun, James	70	Pre-entry Control

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-SB01

Question Serial No.

SV014

Head: 151 Government Secretariat Subhead (No. & title):
Security Bureau

Programme: (2) Internal Security

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Security

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

At the request of Hon CHAN Hak-kan, the Secretary for Security undertook to look into the matter whether and if so social workers were restricted from performing anti-drug abuse work at the boundary control points, and to provide a written reponse after the meeting.

Asked by : Hon.Chan Hak-kan

Reply :

In view of the increasing cross boundary activities, the six land boundary control points (BCPs) are very busy on a daily basis. According to the Immigration Department, the daily average of passenger and vehicular throughput at the BCPs in 2008 were around 450 thousands and over 40 thousands respectively. Except Shenzhen Bay Port and Lok Ma Chau Spur Line, the BCPs have reached their maximum passenger capacity.

A number of law enforcement agencies and government departments work together to ensure the smooth operation and effective management of the BCPs. Among other things, security and operational efficiency to facilitate the cross-boundary traffic and safety of users cannot be compromised. Except for the purpose of crossing the boundary, access to BCPs is tightly controlled by the Police through the issuance of Closed Area Permits on a need basis.

The Administration attaches great importance to curbing the cross-boundary drug abuse problem, and preventive education and publicity is a major part of our efforts. Apart from sustained anti-drug publicity targeting northbound passengers, we also work with non-governmental organisations (NGO) in a focused manner as far as effective operations of BCPs permit. Recent examples include -

- (1) the Police (Border District), working with District Fight Crime Committees and the Action Committee Against Narcotics, have engaged suitable NGO to take part in anti-drug abuse campaigns at selected BCP, particularly before and during long holidays, including distribution of leaflets and provision of counselling services; and
- (2) the Narcotics Division, through the Beat Drugs Fund, has sponsored NGO to set up anti-drug booths at selected BCP in the weekend on Saturday night and on the eve of public holidays from December 2008 to August 2009.

We would also consider collaboration opportunities with more NGO, taking into account individual merits of the proposed initiatives and the safe and efficient operations of BCP.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS CHANG KING YIU

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Security

Date 30.3.2009

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2009-10
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-SB02

Question Serial No.

S041

Head: 122 - Hong Kong Police Force Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: 12204 - Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

- (1) What is the establishment of the Security Wing (SW) in 2008-09 and 2009-10?
- (2) What are the strength and establishment of the SW responsible for counter-terrorism duties?
- (3) What are the strength and establishment of the units responsible for other duties such as VIP protection?

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

- (1) The establishment of the SW in 2008-09 and 2009-10 is as follows:

	2008-09 (Establishment)	2009-10 (Estimated establishment)
Disciplined staff	486	547
Civilian staff	80	84
Total	566	631

- (2) and (3) The SW is responsible for a number of matters related to the internal security of Hong Kong, including VIP protection, the prevention and tackling of terrorist activities etc. As the work of the SW involves police operations of a confidential nature, disclosing information on the duties of SW in detail and its internal manpower deployment may reveal detailed operation arrangements of the Force and its law enforcement capabilities to criminals, who may be able to elude justice. Therefore, we are unable to provide the requested information.

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Name in block letters TANG KING SHING

Post Title Commissioner of Police

Date 27.3.2009

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-SB03

Question Serial No.

S042

Head: 122 - Hong Kong Police Force

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: 12204 - Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

- (1) As a follow-up to SB039, what is the total expenditure for the 100 additional officers who are responsible for counter-terrorism duties?
- (2) What are the duties of the Lecturer and Assistant Lecturer stated in the reply to SB039? What is the content of teaching? Why are such posts required for counter-terrorism duties?

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

- (1) In the financial year 2009-10, the Police Force will create 100 additional posts for pursuing counter-terrorism duties:

Rank	No.	Police Pay Scale/ Master Pay Scale	Monthly Salary HK\$ (from 1 April 2008)
Senior Superintendent	1	52-54	89,995-97,545
Superintendent	2	48-51	77,625-86,630
Chief Inspector	3	42-47	62,225-74,845
Inspector/Senior Inspector	14	23-41	29,460-59,885
Station Sergeant	1	21-29	28,065-37,265
Sergeant	16	14-22	23,125-28,785
Police Constable	59	2-14	16,160-23,125
Clerical Officer	1	16-21	21,880-27,910
Assistant Clerical Officer	3	3-15	10,190-20,835
Total	100		

- (2) The newly created Lecturer (non-degree) and Assistant Lecturer posts will replace the two original Non-Civil Service Contract Staff posts in the Marine Police Training School (MAR PTS) of Marine Region. The new Lecturer post is created mainly for designing and teaching the mechanics course in the MAR PTS as well as serving as the examiner of the course. The Assistant Lecturer post is created mainly for teaching the course on seamanship and providing assistance in training other supervisors. As the responsibilities of these two posts are unrelated to counter-terrorism duties, they are not included in the 100 additional posts mentioned in paragraph (1) of the reply.

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Name in block letters TANG KING SHING

Post Title Commissioner of Police

Date 27.3.2009

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-SB04

Question Serial No.

SV015

Head: 122 - Hong Kong Police Force Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: 12204 - Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

At the request of Hon. James TO, the Commissioner of Police was requested to provide the following information:

- (a) the number of existing posts assigned for performing counter-terrorism duties and details of such duties; and
- (b) whether the creation of 103 additional posts under the Programme "12204 - Operations" was a replacement of the existing posts responsible for counter-terrorism duties; if not, the reasons for that.

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

- (a) As police officers in various formations of the Force are involved, to varying degrees, in counter-terrorism duties, we do not have any specific statistics on the number of posts responsible for counter-terrorism duties. The counter-terrorism duties borne by different formations are categorised below:
 - i. Enhancing co-operation with the Mainland, Macao and overseas governments and law enforcement agencies to monitor global trends and ensure a proper exchange of intelligence and threat assessments – The work is handled by different formations within the Force, mainly the Crime Wing, the Operations Wing, the Security Wing etc.
 - ii. Maintaining vigilance at points of entry and conducting security operations at land, sea and air boundaries based on the prevailing threat levels – The work involves officers from New Territories North Region, Border District, Marine Region and Airport District.
 - iii. When implementing counter-terrorism contingency plans, officers from various formations such as the Police Tactical Unit, the Emergency Unit and other relevant units will participate.

- iv. Disseminating timely threat assessments and provide protection to premises, facilities and individuals which may be under threat, having regard to the then prevailing threat level – Apart from the Security Wing, this task has always involved a majority of front-line officers from various regions and districts.
 - v. Promoting Force and community awareness in combating terrorist activities – The Hong Kong Police College is responsible for providing relevant training to front-line officers while formations of various districts will enhance public awareness of counter-terrorism through different community networks.
- (b) In the financial year 2009-10, the Police Force will create 103 posts under the Programme “Operations”, with 100 of them taking up counter-terrorism duties. The remaining 3 posts are not related to counter-terrorism work. The new posts created for counter-terrorism duties will be responsible for the following work: formulating counter-terrorism strategies, co-ordinating the liaison with international law enforcement agencies regarding counter-terrorism, analysing and assessing counter-terrorism intelligence, providing support to the specialised operational units (such as the Special Duties Unit and the Airport Security Unit), strengthening the responsiveness towards incidents of disposal of explosive devices or threats, and conducting researches and training. These posts will not replace the existing ones responsible for counter-terrorism duties.

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Name in block letters TANG KING SHING

Post Title Commissioner of Police

Date 30.3.2009

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 70 Immigration Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (3) Control after Entry

Controlling Officer : Director of Immigration

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

The Director of Immigration is requested to provide the number of visitors arrested for crimes in Hong Kong in 2008.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply :

The Immigration Department only keeps the relevant figure on visitors arrested by the Department who are suspected of committing certain immigration offences (including overstay and breach of conditions of stay). The relevant arrest figure in 2008 was 13 176 (some arrested persons may be involved in more than one unlawful activities).

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Name in block letters Y L PEH

Post Title Director of Immigration

Date 27 March 2009

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Head : 70 Immigration Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Control upon Entry

Controlling Officer : Director of Immigration

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

- (a) Please provide a breakdown of the number of passengers who were refused entry in 2008 by passengers, seamen, reasons and places of origin.
- (b) How many cases of appeal were lodged in respect of the above cases of refused entry and what were the results?
- (c) Of those who were refused entry, how many were so refused entry because of "bona fides of visit in doubt"? What were the purposes of such visits furnished to the Government by these people?

Asked by : Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply :

- (a) In 2008, a total of 38 324 passengers and seamen were refused entry. A breakdown by the number of passengers and seamen refused entry, places of origin and the circumstances of refused entry is as follows:

Place Category of refused entry	Africa	Asia Pacific (other than Mainland China)	Europe	Mainland China	North America	South America	Total
Doubtful Purpose of Visit - Visitor	674	5 108	39	19 589	27	81	25 518
Doubtful Purpose of Visit - Seaman	0	0	0	59	0	0	59
Improperly Documented	260	5 464	147	6 111	44	76	12 102
Forged Travel Document	45	222	12	350	6	10	645
Total	979	10 794	198	26 109	77	167	38 324

- (b) In 2008, one appeal in respect of refused entry was lodged and it is under process.
- (c) In 2008, there were in total 25 577 visitors and seamen refused entry into Hong Kong because of doubtful purpose of visit. They mainly claimed that they came for leisure, social or business visits.

Signature

Name in block letters

Y L PEH

Post Title

Director of Immigration

Date

27 March 2009
