Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security
Session No. : 14

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme / *Subhead*
S-SB001	S028	TO Kun-sun, James	122	Operations
S-SB002	S029	TO Kun-sun, James	122	Operations
S-SB003	S030	TO Kun-sun, James	122	Operations
S-SB004	S031	TO Kun-sun, James	122	Operations
S-SB005	S032	TO Kun-sun, James	122	Operations
S-SB006	S034	WONG Kwok-hing	122	Road Safety
S-SB007	S035	IP Wai-ming	30	Re-integration
S-SB008	S036	IP Wai-ming	30	Re-integration
S-SB009	S037	IP Wai-ming	30	Re-integration
S-SB010	S011	TO Kun-sun, James	31	*103 - Rewards and special services*
S-SB011	S012	TO Kun-sun, James	31	*103 - Rewards and special services*
S-SB012	S027	TO Kun-sun, James	45	Fire Service

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

S-SB001

Question Serial No.

S028

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

Programme: 12204 - Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

What are the actual and estimated expenditure of the Security Wing in 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively?

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

The revised estimated expenditure of the Security Wing in 2009-10 is around $210 million, and the estimated expenditure in 2010-11 is around $220 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters TANG KING SHING

Post Title Commissioner of Police

Date 8.4.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

S-SB002

Question Serial No.

S029

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

Programme: 12204 - Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

As a follow-up to the reply SB039, the 115 posts newly created in 2010-11 include posts for the fulfilment of international counter-terrorism obligation and VIP protection. Please state the justifications for the creation of such posts and the details involved.

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

Given the complexity of the existing international counter-terrorism situation, as an international metropolis, Hong Kong needs to continue to enhance the Force's overall counter-terrorism preventive capability and vigilance. We also need to follow the overseas arrangement by setting up a dedicated and specially trained unit so as to perform counter-terrorism duties effectively, extend the scope of protection, enhance the overall counter-terrorism capability of the Force and implement its counter-terrorism strategy in a more effective manner.

Signature _____

Name in block letters TANG KING SHING

Post Title Commissioner of Police

Date 8.4.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

S-SB003

Question Serial No.

S030

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

Programme: 12204 - Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

As a follow-up to the reply SB039, in respect of the 115 newly created posts, what are the salary of each rank and the total estimated expenditure? Please list them out by work nature including counter-terrorism, VIP protection and tackling drug abuse.

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

The job nature and ranks of the newly created 115 posts in 2010-11, as well as the pay level of each of the ranks are listed in the table below:

Job nature	Rank	Number of posts	Police Pay Point	Monthly Salary (HK$) (wef 1 Jan 2010)
VIP Protection	Chief Inspector	1	43-48	61,115 - 73,450
	Inspector/Senior Inspector	6	23-42	29,460 - 58,880
	Station Sergeant	1	22-31	28,785 - 40,900
	Sergeant	5	15-24	23,805 - 30,370
	Police Constable	21	3-15	16,655 - 23,805
Fulfilment of international counter-terrorism obligation	Chief Inspector	1	43-48	61,115 - 73,450
	Inspector/Senior Inspector	2	23-42	29,460 - 58,880
	Station Sergeant	2	22-31	28,785 - 40,900
	Sergeant	7	15-24	23,805 - 30,370
	Police Constable	54	3-15	16,655 - 23,805
Tackling drug abuse	Police Constable	15	3-15	16,655 - 23,805
Total		115		

Signature	
Name in block letters	TANG KING SHING
Post Title	Commissioner of Police
Date	8.4.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

S-SB004

Question Serial No.

S031

Head: 122 - Hong Kong Police Force Subhead (No. & title):
Programme: 12204 - Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Among the 115 newly created posts, which posts are under the establishment of the Security Wing? For the posts under the establishment of the Security Wing, what are the salary of each rank and the total estimated expenditure? The remaining posts are under the establishment of which formations? What are the salary of each rank and the total estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

The establishment of the formations under which the 115 posts are newly created in 2010-11, their ranks and salaries are listed in the table below:

Formation	Rank	Number of posts	Police Pay Point	Monthly Salary (HK$) (wef 1 Jan 2010)
Security Wing (VIP Protection)	Chief Inspector	1	43-48	61,115 - 73,450
	Inspector/Senior Inspector	6	23-42	29,460 - 58,880
	Station Sergeant	1	22-31	28,785 - 40,900
	Sergeant	5	15-24	23,805 - 30,370
	Police Constable	21	3-15	16,655 - 23,805
Sub-total		34		
Operations Wing (Fulfilment of international counter-terrorism obligation and tackling drug abuse)	Chief Inspector	1	43-48	61,115 - 73,450
	Inspector/Senior Inspector	2	23-42	29,460 - 58,880
	Station Sergeant	2	22-31	28,785 - 40,900
	Sergeant	7	15-24	23,805 - 30,370
	Police Constable	69	3-15	16,655 - 23,805
Sub-total		81		
Total		115		

Signature	
Name in block letters	TANG KING SHING
Post Title	Commissioner of Police
Date	8.4.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

S-SB005

Question Serial No.

S032

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

Programme: 12204 - Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

(a) Please state the current number of posts responsible for counter-terrorism duties and the details of their responsibilities.

(b) Will the newly created 66 posts responsible for counter-terrorism duties replace the current posts responsible for such duties?

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

(a) The counter-terrorism duties of the Force involve a number of areas including:

Strategy

(i) Co-ordinating the liaison and co-operation with international law enforcement agencies regarding counter-terrorism;

(ii) Analysing and assessing counter-terrorism intelligence;

(iii) Heightening counter-terrorism awareness and vigilance for members of the public as well as private and public sectors.

Training

(i) Intensifying exercises for various major incidents (including counter-terrorism);

(ii) Enhancing the capabilities in response to incidents or threats of explosive devices, and carrying out research and training duties;

(iii) Conducting regular multi-agency joint exercises to practise and enhance counter-terrorism contingency plans.

Preventive Measures

(i) Continuously enhancing the counter-terrorism capabilities of specialised operation units, such as the Special Duties Unit, the Airport Security Unit, the Explosive Ordnance

Disposal Bureau, the Counter Terrorism Response Unit (CTRU) and the Police Negotiation Cadre etc;

(ii) Strengthening the liaison with counter-terrorism units of international enforcement agencies.

Front-line Officers

(i) Heightening counter-terrorism awareness and vigilance for front-line officers (such as training days, briefings, command training and information);

(ii) Reinforcing the co-ordination and co-operation of front-line officers with specialised units through regular exercises.

Protection

Extending the scope of protection and enhancing the overall counter-terrorism capability of the Force. This covers the consular and sensitive premises, key points, critical infrastructure and port facilities under the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code.

As police officers in various formations of the Force are involved, to various degrees, in counter-terrorism duties, we do not have any specific statistics on the number of posts responsible for counter-terrorism duties.

(b) The 66 newly created posts responsible for counter-terrorism duties do not replace the existing posts responsible for such duties. The newly created posts are mainly responsible for extending the scope of protection, enhancing the overall counter-terrorism capability of the Force and implementing its counter-terrorism strategy in a more effective manner. Given the complexity of the existing counter-terrorism situation, as an international metropolis, Hong Kong needs to follow the overseas arrangement by setting up the CTRU. Such a dedicated and specially trained operation unit will perform its duties effectively and thus enhancing the Force's overall counter-terrorism vigilance and preventive capability.

Signature _____

Name in block letters TANG KING SHING

Post Title Commissioner of Police

Date 8.4.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

S-SB006

Question Serial No.

S034

Head: 122 - Hong Kong Police Force Subhead (No. & title):
Programme: 12203 - Road Safety

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

[Note: The question below concerns matters under the policy purview of the Transport and Housing Bureau (THB). The reply was prepared by the Hong Kong Police Force and vetted by the THB.]

Question:

It was mentioned in the reply SB073 that there were 5 accidents involving drug drivers last year and that the Force will study which method of testing drug drivers is more appropriate. Will the Administration:

(a) provide the details of the study?
(b) state the methods expected to be considered?
(c) provide the earliest practicable time that such methods are expected to be implemented?
(d) explain how to tackle the problem of drug driving before the implementation and provide the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

(a) and (c) The Administration is very concerned about recent traffic accidents caused by motorists who drive under the influence of drugs, particularly narcotics. It is planned that priority will be given to cope with dangerous drugs. Having the means to differentiate a motorist who drives under the influence of drugs is a prerequisite for combating drug driving effectively. The Administration has been following overseas studies and legislation on drug driving closely. In recent years, some countries have introduced different ways to ascertain whether a driver is driving under the influence of drugs. For example, in the United Kingdom, field impairment tests were introduced to test the driver's sensory and motor reactions or check his pupils in assessing whether he is under the influence of drugs; some Australian State Governments have introduced rapid testing devices for testing oral fluid to ascertain initially whether a driver has taken certain drugs. For the time being, the rapid test devices used in Australia is only for testing the drugs commonly abused there. The Administration is looking for rapid test devices which can identify drugs commonly abused in Hong Kong (such as ketamine), and their reliability.

The Administration will draw reference from overseas experience and consider the feasibility of various methods of identifying drug drivers as mentioned above and which method is more suitable under Hong Kong's circumstances. We will also

study how the legislation should be amended to better facilitate enforcement actions and evidence collection, including the need for heavier penalties to deter drug driving. The Administration hopes to formulate initial proposals for public consultation in around mid-2010. If the measures to tackle drug driving involve amendment of legislation, they cannot be implemented until the legislation amendment is completed. When studying the initial proposals, the Force will continue to ensure road safety by reminding drivers not to overlook the effects of drugs and to refrain from driving under the influence of drugs through a multi-faceted approach which covers law enforcement, publicity and education.

(d) The Government has always followed a five-pronged strategy to combat the drug problem by launching more vigorous anti-drug initiatives on education and publicity, treatment and rehabilitation, legislation and enforcement, external cooperation, and evidence-based research.

The Force will continue to monitor incidents involving drug driving, and has given instructions to front-line officers to remind them of the relevant procedures. In fact, if drug driving is involved in an accident or an accident with casualties, the driver may be charged with offences such as dangerous driving or dangerous driving causing death.

On the other hand, the Administration will step up publicity reminding drivers to watch out for drug label warnings such as “This drug may cause drowsiness” or “Do not drive after taking this drug” before taking any drugs. A person must not drive if he has to take drugs which may affect driving, and should use other transport instead.

Tackling drug driving falls under the Programme of “Road Safety”. No specific breakdown of the estimated expenditure in this respect is available.

Signature _____

Name in block letters TANG KING SHING

Post Title Commissioner of Police

Date 8.4.2010

Reply Serial No.

S-SB007

Question Serial No.

S035

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Head : 30 Correctional Services Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Re-integration

Controlling Officer : Commissioner of Correctional Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

Regarding Reply SB122, the success rate of non-conviction and free from drugs in one year after discharge from the Drug Addiction Treatment Centre (DATC) was only some 60%. The Administration states that discharged DATC inmates are already subject to one year's statutory supervision and counselling and support are given to them. However, among those inmates discharged from DATC, almost four out of 10 become drug abusers or offenders again. Does it mean that the care and support given to them are still inadequate? Will the Administration provide additional resources in the coming year to address the problem of re-offending so as to help them start afresh? Moreover, for the indicator "non-conviction and free from drugs in one year after discharge", will the Administration set a higher and more specific target in the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) provides inmates of Drug Addiction Treatment Centres (DATCs) with welfare and counselling services. Besides, the inmates' re-offending risks and their rehabilitative needs in the areas of employment, family, social functioning and community adjustment are assessed with a view to providing them with appropriate rehabilitative programme matching, hence helping them start afresh. During the supervision period after release, supervising officers of CSD will follow up the supervisees' situation and ensure that they are engaged in gainful employment, law-abiding and staying away from drugs. CSD will provide an additional funding of $4.69 million on addiction treatment services in 2010-11.

The success rate of the DATC programme is contingent upon a number of factors. Whether inmates can start afresh not only depend upon the DATC programme and the related rehabilitative services provided by CSD, but also their own determination as well as the acceptance and support of the community. Given that "non-conviction and free from drugs in one year after discharge" is an objective indicator that reflects generally the effectiveness of the DATC programme as influenced by various factors, CSD will continue to adopt this indicator as a reference in the coming year.

Signature	
Name in block letters	KWOK LEUNG MING
Post Title	Commissioner of Correctional Services
Date	8 April 2010

Reply Serial No.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

S-SB008

Question Serial No.

S036

Head : 30 Correctional Services Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Re-integration

Controlling Officer : Commissioner of Correctional Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

(a) Reply SB123 states that the Correctional Services Department (CSD) does not have information and data on the employment of rehabilitated persons by government departments and private enterprises. Do other government departments have the relevant data?

(b) If no, how does the Administration assess whether the support services provided for the rehabilitated persons are sufficient; whether the support provided for them is effective; and areas for improvement?

(c) The Reply also states that CSD will organise a new round of publicity activities appealing for community acceptance of and support for rehabilitated persons in 2010-11 and the estimated expenditure is $1.65 million. Apart from these publicity activities, will the Administration organise any workplace attachment programmes in collaboration with private enterprises, such as job-matching schemes, to actually provide employment opportunity to rehabilitated persons?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

(a) The Government does not collect information and data on the employment of rehabilitated persons by government departments and private enterprises.

(b) Although the Government does not centrally collect information and data on the employment of rehabilitated persons by government departments and private enterprises, the Correctional Services Department (CSD) does gather information on specific areas for reference. For example, CSD has all along been collecting the employment information of rehabilitated persons subject to supervision. The Department has also, through the Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong (SRACP), collected employment figures of discharged adult inmates who have completed pre-release vocational training. In addition, CSD and the related training organisations will collect through questionnaire the comments of prisoners on the vocational training courses they have attended.

(c) Apart from organising educational and publicity activities to promote public support for rehabilitated persons, CSD has all along been implementing different

programmes to facilitate their re-integration into society. Local prisoners are arranged to attend the "Pre-release Re-integration Orientation Course" before discharge to help them acquire general information which is useful for their rehabilitation. Special measures are also in place to help them find jobs. For example, in 2008, CSD facilitated the co-operation of a commercial enterprise and SRACP to establish a social enterprise which provided employment opportunities for rehabilitated persons. CSD will continue to promote such kind of cooperation with a view to providing more job opportunities for rehabilitated persons. In addition, SRACP offers post-release employment counselling and follow-up services for adult inmates who have completed placement-tied courses provided by CSD. CSD has also developed a "Caring Employers" network, mainly consisted of local enterprises, to provide a platform for rehabilitated persons to find jobs. In 2009, a total of 554 rehabilitated persons secured jobs through the network.

Signature	
Name in Block Letters	KWOK LEUNG MING
Post Title	Commissioner of Correctional Services
Date	8 April 2010

Reply Serial No.

S-SB009

Question Serial No.

S037

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Head : 30 Correctional Services Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Re-integration

Controlling Officer : Commissioner of Correctional Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

In Reply SB124, it is mentioned that for those prisoners who pursue further studies, they would be provided with advice and guidance and given assistance to apply for relevant subsidies. However, for these prisoners with relatively higher academic qualifications, will the Administration consider providing them with special employment schemes to enable them to find jobs matching their specific knowledge upon release, so that they will not end up engaging in elementary-level jobs only because of their past identity?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

The Correctional Services Department (CSD) will arrange all local prisoners to take part in the "Pre-release Re-integration Orientation Course" before discharge. The course covers general information on social services and organisations which are of particular relevance to rehabilitated persons. It includes a brief introduction on social welfare services and community service facilities, information on government and voluntary agencies which offer assistance to rehabilitated persons in finding jobs, as well as job interview skills and labour legislation. Employment counselling and information on the labour market are also provided to prepare them for employment after release. For those prisoners who need assistance in finding jobs, CSD will refer them to participate in relevant employment schemes operated by government departments or non-government organisations (NGOs). CSD will also arrange NGOs to provide voluntary employment counselling and follow-up services for those prisoners who have received vocational training in correctional institutions. For individual rehabilitated persons under CSD's statutory supervision, employment counselling will be provided by their supervising officers. The above support is not confined to finding elementary-level jobs. Rehabilitated persons with relatively higher academic qualifications will also receive similar support and assistance in finding suitable jobs which match with their specific ability and knowledge upon release.

Signature	
Name in block letters	KWOK LEUNG MING
Post Title	Commissioner of Correctional Services
Date	8 April 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

S-SB010

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Question Serial No.

S011

Head: 31 Customs and Excise Department

Subhead (No. & title): 103 Rewards and Special Services

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Customs and Excise

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The approved estimate for 2009-10 under this subhead is $8.5 million, while the revised estimate for the same financial year is $9 million. Please provide the justifications for and the details of the revised estimate.

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

The Customs and Excise Department adjusted the revised estimate for 2009-10 under this subhead according to its need of actual expenditure. It is not appropriate to reveal the details of the revised estimate for 2009-10 under this subhead because the disclosure of such information would compromise enforcement effectiveness.

Signature _____

Name in block letters LUKE H L AU YEUNG

Post Title Acting Commissioner of Customs and Excise

Date 30.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

S-SB011

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Question Serial No.

S012

Head: 31 Customs and Excise Department

Subhead (No. & title): 103 Rewards and Special Services

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Customs and Excise

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

The estimate for 2010-11 under this subhead is $9 million which is the highest when compared with those in the past. Please provide the justifications for and the details of the estimate.

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

The Customs and Excise Department set the estimated expenditure for 2010-11 under this subhead according to its estimated need. It is not appropriate to reveal the details of the estimated expenditure for 2010-11 under this subhead because the disclosure of such information would compromise enforcement effectiveness.

Signature _____

Name in block letters LUKE H L AU YEUNG

Post Title Acting Commissioner of Customs and Excise

Date 30.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

S-SB012

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Question Serial No.

S027

Head: 45 Fire Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Fire Service

Controlling Officer: Director of Fire Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question: (a) Please list out all the fire protection equipment procured in the past three years for the improvement and enhancement of the safety of fire personnel and the expenditures involved; and

(b) Does the Administration have any plans to procure equipment for improving and enhancing the safety of fire personnel in 2010-11 and beyond? If yes, please provide detailed progress of such plans and their estimated expenditures.

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply: (a) Fire Services Department (FSD) is always committed to providing the best protective equipment and clothing for its frontline personnel to ensure their operational safety and efficiency. The protective equipment procured in the past three years for the improvement and enhancement of the safety of fire personnel and the expenditures involved are set out below:

Equipment	Expenditure
1 500 breathing apparatus of new specifications	$45 million
12 125 anti-flash hoods	$2.55 million
High angle rescue equipment, including 1 700 helmets, 1 700 pairs of gloves and other ancillary equipment	$2.35 million
5 900 pairs of firefighter's gloves	$2.06 million
4 600 pairs of firefighter's boots	$1.81 million
Personal protective equipment for the Urban Search and Rescue Team, including protective clothing, helmets, boots and other ancillary equipment	$0.8 million

(b) In 2010-11 and beyond, FSD plans to procure the following protective equipment for improving and enhancing the safety of fire personnel and the expenditures involved are set out below:

Equipment	Estimated Expenditure	Progress
13 000 sets of fire tunic and overtrousers	$89 million	Calling for tender, expected delivery by March 2011
4 400 sets of high angle rescue helmets and gloves	$3.5 million	Procurement procedures underway
1 000 sets of protective clothing for the Urban Search and Rescue Team	$0.8 million	Procurement procedures underway

Signature _____

Name in block letters LO CHUN HUNG

Post Title Director of Fire Services

Date 8.4.2010