

**Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members  
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09**

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

| <b>Reply<br/>Serial No.</b>   | <b>Question<br/>Serial No.</b> | <b>Name of Member</b> | <b>Head</b> | <b>Programme</b>                     |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| <a href="#"><u>S-SB01</u></a> | S036                           | LAM Wai-keung, Daniel | 151         | Director of Bureau's<br>Office       |
| <a href="#"><u>S-SB02</u></a> | S037                           | LAM Wai-keung, Daniel | 151         | Internal Security                    |
| <a href="#"><u>S-SB03</u></a> | S038                           | LAM Wai-keung, Daniel | 151         | Internal Security                    |
| <a href="#"><u>S-SB04</u></a> | S039                           | LAM Wai-keung, Daniel | 151         | Immigration Control                  |
| <a href="#"><u>S-SB05</u></a> | S033                           | TO Kun-sun, James     | 30          | Prison Management,<br>Re-integration |
| <a href="#"><u>S-SB06</u></a> | S034                           | TO Kun-sun, James     | 30          |                                      |
| <a href="#"><u>S-SB07</u></a> | S035                           | TO Kun-sun, James     | 30          |                                      |
| <a href="#"><u>S-SB08</u></a> | S041                           | WONG Kwok-hing        | 70          | Personal Documentation               |
| <a href="#"><u>S-SB09</u></a> | S040                           | LAU Wai-hing, Emily   | 122         | Prevention and Detection<br>of Crime |
| <a href="#"><u>S-SB10</u></a> | SV008                          | LAU Wai-hing, Emily   | 122         | Prevention and Detection<br>of Crime |
| <a href="#"><u>S-SB11</u></a> | SV016                          | LEE Wing-tat          | 122         | Operations                           |
| <a href="#"><u>S-SB12</u></a> | SV017                          | TONG Ka-wah, Ronny    | 122         | Road Safety                          |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**S-SB01**

Question Serial No.

S036

Head : 151 - Government Secretariat: Security Bureau

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Security

Director of Bureau : Security Bureau

Question :

The estimate for 2008-09 in respect of Director of Bureau's Office is +100% on 2007-08 Original. The increase is much higher than those for the other two programmes. Please advise on the reason(s). Among which, what is the estimate for salary arising from the creation of posts under the Political Appointment System? What is the estimate for provision for general departmental expenses? What is the estimate for other related expenses for administrative support and what are the major items that are being included?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

Reply :

Provision for 2008-09 is \$5.6 million (100%) higher than the original estimate for 2007-08. This is mainly due to the increased provisions of about \$5 million for creating 3 posts: one post of Senior Personal Secretary post, one position of Under Secretary and one position of Political Assistant. The remaining provision is to cater for the increase in the pay adjustment in 2007 and other general administrative expenses.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters MS CHANG KING YIU

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Security

Date 11 April 2008

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**S-SB02**

Question Serial No.

S037

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

Programme : (2) Internal Security

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Security

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

Regarding Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2008-09, it is stated that the Bureau will continue to work in collaboration with relevant bureaux and departments towards the reduction of the coverage of the Frontier Closed Area. Please provide the expenditure involved and the details of the work.

Asked by : Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

Reply :

We need to install a secondary boundary fence and new sections of the boundary patrol road and primary fence along the boundary between Hong Kong and the Mainland, before formally reducing the coverage of the Frontier Closed Area (FCA). The construction works involved will be coordinated by the Architectural Services Department. As the project is a designated project under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499) and involves excavation works in the area of "Conservation Area" and "Green Belt" zones, we will conduct an environmental impact assessment for the project in accordance with Cap. 499 and the requirements stipulated by the Town Planning Board. The cost for conducting the above-mentioned assessment and the design fees for the fence and boundary patrol road for the 2008-09 financial year will be around \$2 million and will be settled under block allocation Subhead 3100GX "Project feasibility studies, minor investigations and consultants' fees for items in Category D of the Public Works Programme" of the Capital Works Reserve Fund Head 703.

On the other hand, the Security Bureau will provide comments to the Development Bureau and Planning Department on security-related issues, to assist them to conduct a planning study for the areas to be released from the FCA.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ MS CHANG KING YIU

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Permanent Secretary for Security

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 11 April 2008

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**S-SB03**

Question Serial No.

S038

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

Programme : (2) Internal Security

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Security

Director of Bureau : Security Bureau

Question :

How much of the estimate, which is much higher than last year's, will be used on combating drug and money laundering activities? What is the operational expenditure involved for the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Equestrian Event? Compared with last year, what are the respective increases?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

Reply :

In 2008-09, about \$36.75 million has been provided for operating expenses for combating drug and money laundering activities, representing an increase of \$13.95 million over 2007-08. As for the 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Equestrian Event, there were no relevant expenses in 2007-08, and the provision for 2008-09 is about \$1.15 million.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters MS CHANG KING YIU

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Security

Date 11 April 2008

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

**S-SB04**

Question Serial No.

S039

Head : 151 – Government Secretariat: Security Bureau

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (3) Immigration Control

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Security

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

Item 12 under Brief Description stated that it reviewed the Quality Migrant Admission Scheme with a view to casting the net wider for quality migrants. Please inform this Committee what was the scale of the review? Who took the lead and who carried out the review? Would the review affect current policy? What was the provision for the work?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

Reply :

As mentioned in item 12 of the Controlling Officer's Report, Government conducted a review of the Quality Migrant Admission Scheme (QMAS) in 2007-08. Under the revised QMAS that took effect in January 2008, key enhancements include lifting the age limit so that potential candidates aged 51 or above are now eligible to apply; adjusting the marking scheme to make it possible for younger degree holders with less working experience to meet the passing mark for further assessment; and streamlining the extension of stay requirement for QMAS entrants admitted through the Achievement-based Points Test. Resources required for the review were absorbed by the 2007-08 provision of this Bureau.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters MS CHANG KING YIU

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Security

Date 11 April 2008

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-SB05

Question Serial No.

S033

Head : 30 Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No & title) : 700 General Non-recurrent

Programme : (1) Prison Management and (2) Re-integration

Controlling Officer : Commissioner of Correctional Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

Under this subhead, the revised estimate in 2007-08 is \$5,576,000, which is substantially higher than the approved estimate in 2007-08 and the actual expenditure in 2006-07. Please inform this Council of the specific reasons for the arrangement and the details.

Asked by : Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply :

The revised estimate under Subhead 700 General Non-recurrent in 2007-08 is higher than the approved estimate in 2007-08 and the actual expenditure in 2006-07 mainly due to the need to allocate additional funding to carry out a number of ad hoc projects/studies, which are aimed at enhancing the operational efficiency of the Department. These projects/studies include the production of a set of training kits on managing staff integrity, a study on the performance measures of rehabilitative programmes and services, and a planning study on a new radio communication system.

|                       |                                                   |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Signature             | _____                                             |
| Name in block letters | _____ KWOK LEUNG MING _____                       |
| Post Title            | _____ Commissioner of Correctional Services _____ |
| Date                  | _____ 10 April 2008 _____                         |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-SB06

Question Serial No.

S034

Head : 30 Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No & title) :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Commissioner of Correctional Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

Please list all the expenditure involved in organising the Sports Meet of Guangdong/Hong Kong/Macao Correctional Officers in 2008 (please list all expenditure items) and under which programme and subhead of the estimate of the Correctional Services Department is such expenditure placed?

Asked by : Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply :

The theme of the Sports Meet of Guangdong/Hong Kong/Macao Correctional Officers in 2008 was "Strive for Excellence with a Healthy Life". One of the main objectives of the event is to provide an opportunity for the participants, including correctional officers from different places, representatives from local schools, non-governmental organizations and uniformed groups, to know more about the correctional services in Hong Kong.

The 2008 Sports Meet was mainly funded by sponsorship and donations. The Correctional Services Department has allocated \$100,000 under Subhead 000 Operational expenses (chargeable to Programme (1) Prison Management and Programme (2) Re-integration) for publicity items and souvenirs, which accounted for less than 10% of the total expenditure involved in organising the event.

|                       |                                                   |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Signature             | _____                                             |
| Name in block letters | _____ KWOK LEUNG MING _____                       |
| Post Title            | _____ Commissioner of Correctional Services _____ |
| Date                  | _____ 11 April 2008 _____                         |



Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-SB07

Question Serial No.

S035

Head : 30 Correctional Services Department

Subhead (No & title) :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Commissioner of Correctional Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

Please list all the expenditure involved in organising the Sports Meet of Guangdong/Hong Kong/Macao Correctional Officers in 2001 (please list all expenditure items) and under which programme and subhead of the estimate of the Correctional Services Department is such expenditure placed?

Asked by : Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply :

The Sports Meet of Guangdong/Hong Kong/Macao Correctional Officers in 2001 was funded by sponsorship and donations. No government expenditure was involved.

|                       |                                                   |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Signature             | _____                                             |
| Name in block letters | _____ KWOK LEUNG MING _____                       |
| Post Title            | _____ Commissioner of Correctional Services _____ |
| Date                  | _____ 11 April 2008 _____                         |

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

**Reply Serial No.**

**S-SB08**

**Question Serial No.**

**S041**

Head : 70 Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (4) Personal Documentation

Controlling Officer : Director of Immigration

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Security

Question :

Please provide answers to the following questions on the smart identity card.

- (1) What are the total cost for developing the smart identity card so far and the number of smart identity cards that have been issued?
- (2) What are the respective target functions that the smart identity card was originally designed and developed to serve? How many of the functions have been brought to realisation? What are the functions which have not been achieved? And what are the percentages of those achieved for the two? Please also explain in detail why those target functions cannot be achieved and when the problems can be completely solved.
- (3) Has the Administration any plan to conduct an overall review of the performance regarding the implementation of the smart identity card and the problems that have been arisen after its application, and to work out measures for improvement?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (1) As at 31 March 2008, the total accumulative expenditure for the HKSAR Identity (ID) Card Project was \$757 million. A total of 7.9 million smart ID cards were issued.
- (2) The HKSAR ID Card Project was to develop the Smart ID Card System in replacing the old computer system for issuing ID cards and to launch a region-wide Smart ID Card Replacement Exercise. The development of smart ID cards was to enhance the security features of the cards, improve data protection, improve efficiency in processing applications, facilitate more convenient travelling under the automated passenger/vehicle clearance system and achieve savings in resources. All these immigration related functions are achieved.

As regards other non-immigration related functions, the Administration has, in the joint meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting and the Legislative Council Panel on Security in December 2001, put forward to Members four non-immigration applications that might be implemented on the smart ID card, namely the Digital Certificate application, the Library Card application, the Driving Licence application and the Change of Address application. Besides, the Administration would reserve the capacity and capability in the smart ID card for an e-purse function and Personal Identification Number (PIN) function respectively.

Both Digital Certificate application and Library Card application were launched in June 2003 in conjunction with the commencement of the issuance of the smart ID card. Citizens can voluntarily opt for these two applications in their smart ID cards. Change of Address application and other e-government applications have also been made possible by using the digital certificate embedded in the smart ID card.

As for the Driving Licence application, it was found after detailed scrutiny that the original idea of engraving driving licence data on smart ID cards or incorporating the data into the chips had various operational constraints (e.g. there might be difficulty for the public and overseas authorities to access the data in the chip; there would be a need to re-issue smart ID cards with no driving licence data engraved on the card face to persons whose driving licences were temporarily suspended, etc). Hence, the Administration considered it not appropriate to include driving licence in the smart ID card.

Regarding the reserved capacity in smart ID cards for the development of the e-purse function as an option in the light of public demand and preference, after consulting the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and having regard to the current market situation, the Administration does not have the timetable for the implementation of e-purse in smart ID cards at this stage. The PIN function is still a reserved capability of the smart ID card. Should any government department have plan to make use of the PIN function, the Administration will consult the Legislative Council prior to confirming the proposed use.

- (3) The Smart ID Card Project had achieved most of its target functions. The Administration will continue to monitor the implementation of Smart ID Card Project and will continue to explore the feasibility of using the smart ID card for new functions. An example of such continuous effort is the use of smart ID card in the Leisure Link self-service kiosks of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department since March 2008. The use would facilitate the booking of sports facilities and recreation activities.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters    Y L PEH

Post Title    Director of Immigration

Date    11 April 2008

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

Reply Serial No.

**S-SB09**

Question Serial No.

**S040**

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

Programme:                      12202 - Prevention and Detection of Crime

Controlling Officer:      Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau:      Secretary for Security

Question:

Regarding the adoption of the “One Family One Team” approach to handle domestic violence cases, how many officers are in one team and how many teams are there? How many cases is each team responsible for? In view of the drastic increase in the number of domestic violence case, what additional resources will be deployed in 2008-09 to deal with these cases?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

Under the “One Family One Team” approach, the same investigation team will take over investigations of all domestic violence cases involving the same family so as to strengthen the capabilities of all investigation teams in identifying the potential risk factors and facilitate early intervention and provision of appropriate assistance by the Police.

The number of investigation teams in each district or division is determined by the existing establishment of the Police. It varies with the population and number of cases in each district. At present, the number of investigation teams under the establishment of each district or division varies from 3 to 14. All investigation teams will handle domestic violence cases under the “One Family One Team” approach. When encountering serious domestic violence cases, each Police District will assign, having regard to workload, 1 to 3 designated domestic violence investigation teams to focus on the handling of such cases in light of the workload.

Each investigation team is led by an inspectorate police officer and comprises several junior police officers including police officer(s) at the rank of Sergeant and several Police Constables, depending on the establishment of the district or division. All investigation teams are also required to investigate general criminal cases apart from domestic violence cases.

The Police strengthen the handling of domestic violence cases through effective allocation of existing resources. As the work falls under the overall Programme of “Prevention and Detection of Crime”, the Police do not maintain a breakdown of its expenditure. The Police will allocate appropriate resources for handling the cases according to the actual situation.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      TANG KING SHING

Post Title      Commissioner of Police

Date      April 2008

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

Reply Serial No.

**S-SB10**

Question Serial No.

SV008

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

Programme:                    12202 - Prevention and Detection of Crime

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In response to Hon. Emily LAU, the Administration undertook to provide details of prosecution and conviction on the following cases concerning:

- (a) criminal damage to publicity boards of councillors (including Legislative Councillors and District Councillors) and publicity boards relating to elections in the past three years; and
  - (b) intimidation against Legislative Councillors and District Councillors in the past three years.
- (follow-up to reply serial no. SB161 and 162)

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

- (a) The details of cases concerning criminal damage to publicity boards of councillors (including Legislative Councillors and District Councillors) and publicity boards relating to elections in the past three years are given below:

|                                                | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Number of cases                                | 103  | 89   | 305  |
| Number of cases detected                       | 14   | 11   | 36   |
|                                                |      |      |      |
| Number of persons arrested                     | 14   | 11   | 36   |
| Number of persons charged with criminal damage | 5    | 9    | 12   |
| Number of persons charged with theft           | -    | -    | 1*   |
| Total                                          | 5    | 9    | 13   |
|                                                |      |      |      |
| Number of persons convicted                    | 5    | 9    | 11   |

\* As the offender tore off the poster concerned, the offence of theft was considered more appropriate having regard to the nature of crime after conducting investigations and obtaining advice from the Department of Justice.

- (b) The number of cases concerning intimidation against Legislative Councillors and District Councillors in the past three years is given below:

|                                                      | <b>2005</b> | <b>2006</b> | <b>2007</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Number of cases                                      | 1           | 6           | 22          |
| Number of cases detected                             | -           | 3           | 8           |
|                                                      |             |             |             |
| Number of persons arrested                           | -           | 3           | 8           |
| Number of persons charged with criminal intimidation | -           | -           | 1           |
| Number of persons convicted                          | -           | -           | 1           |

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters TANG KING SHING

Post Title Commissioner of Police

Date 11 April 2008

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

Reply Serial No.

**S-SB11**

Question Serial No.

**SV016**

Head: 122 - Hong Kong Police Force

Subhead (No. &  
title):

Programme: 12204 - Operations

Controlling Officer: Commissioner of Police

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

In response to Hon. LEE Wing-tat's question, the Administration undertook to provide information, including the outcome of investigation (if completed) on the two incidents in 2001 involving the running aground of Marine Police launches.

Asked by: Hon. Lee Wing-tat

Reply:

According to the police records, there were altogether four incidents running aground in 2001 involving Police launches.

The first accident happened on 7 February 2001 when the Police launch PL 44 ran aground on A Chau whilst patrolling in Tolo Harbour. The second accident happened on 15 June 2001 when the Police launch PL 22 ran aground on Mo Chau whilst patrolling in Hoi Ha Wan. The third accident happened on 19 June 2001 when the Police launch PL 30 ran aground on Ap Shek on passing the coastal waters of Sai Kung. The fourth accident happened on 2 August 2001 when the Police launch PL 42 ran aground on Breaker Reef whilst patrolling in Mirs Bay.

Subsequent investigations revealed that the four accidents did not result from any defects of the engines or the design of the Police launches, but rather involved the neglect of duty of the concerned police officers. The Force had taken appropriate disciplinary actions against the concerned officers afterwards.

The Marine Region will conduct a thorough review after occurrence of each accident and remind the police officers concerned of the areas which require particular attention and improvement. Moreover, on a regular basis the Marine Region provides suitable training for launch operators for continuous enhancement of their professional standard so as to prevent and minimise the occurrence of accidents.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters TANG KING SHING

Post Title Commissioner of Police

Date 11 April 2008



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

Reply Serial No.

**S-SB12**

Question Serial No.

SV017

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 THB.]

Question:

In response to Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny, the Administration undertook to provide the cost implications of procuring laser guns with digital functions for trial use in speed enforcement.

(follow-up to reply serial no. SB195)

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

The Force has been watchful to the law enforcement devices newly introduced in the international market with a view to introducing appropriate and more advanced devices and equipment which are acceptable to the courts as evidence to ensure the continual effectiveness of law enforcement actions against speeding.

In 2008-09, the Force will continue its efforts and studies on upgrading law enforcement devices. If there are any appropriate devices, the Force would acquire them for conducting tests to confirm the feasibility of adopting them as law enforcement devices.

The prices of laser guns with digital photo functions available in the market vary from \$350,000 to \$450,000. The cost of other supporting accessories are not included in the above prices.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters TANG KING SHING

Post Title Commissioner of Police

Date 11 April 2008