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### Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2019-20

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Session No. : 20

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-LWB(WW)01**

**(Question Serial No. S113)**

Head: (170) Social Welfare Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (2) Social Security

Controlling Officer: Director of Social Welfare (Ms Carol YIP)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Question:

Further to Reply Serial No. LWB(WW)0038:

It is mentioned in the Government's reply that "a total headcount of 96 324 persons had participated in the Integrated Employment Assistance Programme for Self-reliance (IEAPS), with 20 561 participants having secured employment or returned to mainstream schooling" over the 6 years between 2013 and 2018, meaning that the IEAPS only has a success rate of 20%. In this connection, has the Government reviewed the effectiveness of the IEAPS on a regular basis? If yes, please provide the timetable and results of the review. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon AU Nok-hin

Reply:

The Government has extended the service period of the IEAPS in its current service mode to end-March 2020. The Government will also strengthen the collaboration among the Social Welfare Department (SWD), the Labour Department, the Employees Retraining Board and non-governmental organisations operating the IEAPS, so as to provide more comprehensive employment and retraining services to able-bodied adult Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients. The SWD will continue to listen to stakeholders' views with a view to further encouraging and assisting CSSA recipients to work and sustain employment.

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