

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB266

(Question Serial No. 0635)Head: (23) Auxiliary Medical ServiceSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme: Not specifiedControlling Officer: Chief Staff Officer, Auxiliary Medical Service (HUI Wai-kwong, Sam)Director of Bureau: Secretary for SecurityQuestion:

In accordance with section 15(c) of the Auxiliary Forces Pay and Allowances Ordinance (the Ordinance), Cap. 254, Laws of Hong Kong, a member who completes during a year a period of continuous training of not less than 7 days shall be eligible to be paid a bounty of such amount as may be fixed under section 3 of the Ordinance. According to the interpretation set out in section 2 of the Ordinance, "training" means duty pursuant to the order of a commander. In this regard, please inform this Committee of:

1. the actual amount of the "bounty of such amount as may be fixed under section 3" as stated in section 15(c);
2. to understand the duty attendance of the Auxiliary Medical Service (AMS) and the bounty paid by the AMS in the past 5 years, please provide the information for the past 5 years using the table below;

Year	Number of members who completed a period of continuous training of not less than 6 days	Number of members who were paid the bounty under section 15(c)
2016		
2015		
2014		
2013		
2012		
Total		

3. given the obvious conflict between the Ordinance's requirement that a member who completes a period of continuous training of not less than 7 days shall be eligible to be paid a bounty and the labour legislation's requirement that an employee "is entitled to not less than 1 rest day in every period of 7 days", whether the authority will conduct a review and change the period of continuous training of 7 days under section 15(c) to 6 days; and

whether the authority will consider cancelling the requirement that a member shall be eligible to be paid the bounty only once a year.

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (Member Question No. 23)

Reply:

The prevailing level of the bounty payable under section 3 of the Auxiliary Forces Pay and Allowances Ordinance, Cap. 254, Laws of Hong Kong is \$900.

In view of the contents of individual training modules and the Department's operational needs, the Auxiliary Medical Service (AMS) did not arrange any continuous training of more than 6 days in recent years. In the past 5 years, no AMS members were paid the bounty in accordance with section 15 of the Auxiliary Forces Pay and Allowances Ordinance, Cap. 254, Laws of Hong Kong. The number of members who completed a period of continuous training of 6 days is as follows:

Year	Number of members
2016	116
2015	118
2014	120
2013	122
2012	139
Total	615

Taking part in the AMS and its training is on a voluntary service basis. Members who took part in the above training were eligible to receive the appropriate daily pay or hourly pay in accordance with the Auxiliary Forces Pay and Allowances Ordinance, Cap. 254, Laws of Hong Kong.

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB578

(Question Serial No. 3698)

Head: (23) Auxiliary Medical Service

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: Auxiliary Medical Service

Controlling Officer: Chief Staff Officer, Auxiliary Medical Service

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

What was the budget for the provision of decontamination training to AMS members for response to nuclear emergencies in 2017-18?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (Member Question No. 527)

Reply:

Topics about decontamination of radiation have been included in the general regular training of AMS. As such courses are part of the regular training, no breakdown on budget is available.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

SB579

(Question Serial No. 3324)

Head: (23) Auxiliary Medical Service

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: Not specified

Controlling Officer: Chief Staff Officer, Auxiliary Medical Service (HUI Wai-kwong, Sam)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Security

Question:

Does your department provide sign language interpretation services? If yes, what are the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung (Member Question No. 63)

Reply:

The Auxiliary Medical Service (AMS) currently does not provide sign language interpretation services in its day-to-day operations. Nonetheless, if such a need arises in the future, the AMS will consider individual circumstances and arrange the relevant services for people in need.

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