

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

HAB155

Question Serial No.

1192

Head: 94 Legal Aid Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Litigation Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Legal Aid

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

In respect of criminal legal aid provided by the Legal Aid Department in 2009-10:

- (a) What were the costs incurred for criminal legal aid cases?
- (b) Of the said amount, how much was incurred in cases assigned out to private legal practitioners?
- (c) What is the amount earmarked for the anticipated increase in criminal legal aid fees? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. NG Margaret

Reply:

- (a) The costs incurred for 2009-10 (as at 28 February 2010) were \$99.72 m.
- (b) Of the amount mentioned in (a), \$97.25 m was incurred in cases assigned out to private legal practitioners.
- (c) An amount of \$15 m has been earmarked for the anticipated increase in criminal legal aid fees for 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters William CHAN

Post Title Director of Legal Aid

Date 17.3.2010