

Translated Article:

Government Expenditure For Torture Claimants Is Over \$600 Million

Only 0.4% established cases

The government expenditure for torture claimants and claims for non-refoulement have continued to increase in recent years. Spendings include providing for humanitarian and legal aid. The expected expenditure for the next financial year is \$644m, which is a 64% increase compared to three years ago. Legal aid has increased 86%, and 9,600 cases are waiting to be screened to date. Among the 5500+ cases last year, only 25 cases were established. This means that for every 1000 applicants, only four receive humanitarian aid.

Any people who illegally enter Hong Kong can apply for torture claimants at the Immigration Department. Successful applicants can stay in Hong Kong without repatriation. According to the statistics from the Immigration Department, expenditure keeps increasing in works related to torture claimants. It has increased from \$390m between years 2012 to 2013 to \$644m, which is an increase of 64%. From 2009 to 2014, the Immigration Department screened 5581 cases, but only 25 are established. 14 Sri Lankan and 8 Jordanian cases are included among the established ones.

Last March, the government implemented a unified screening mechanism (USM) to determine claims for non-refoulement protection against expulsion, return or extradition from Hong Kong to another country. By the end of last year, there were 9,618 cases. Most of the applicants are Pakistani, adding to 2,166. There were also Indian and Bangladeshi applicants, 1,760 and 1,237 respectively. Crimes related to applicants of the claimants are increasing. Excluding illegal employment, other crime cases increased from 493 in 2012 to 738 in 2014, which is about a 50% increase.

Furthermore, in order to fight against foreign domestic helpers who abuse earlier end contracts to change employers, the Immigration Department has strengthened the review process since June 2013. By February, the Immigration Department had found 4,300 suspicious cases. 313 cases were rejected, and it is believed that this measure can improve the situation.

Although since 2013 non-citizen parents from Mainland China were not allowed to enter Hong Kong, many still try to. From April last year to February this year, the Immigration Department had 51,000 suspicions of pregnant Mainland China women, and 5,100 could not enter Hong Kong. Although Hong Kong rejects non-citizen pregnant women to give birth in Hong Kong, Mainland China talents are welcomed. Around 10,000 non-local graduates stay or return to Hong Kong for work. 93% are Mainland China graduates, and 70% of them hold a Master's degree.

Original Article:

<http://m.on.cc/nc/hknews/20150328/20150328222614lc.html>

政府過去數年用於酷刑聲請及免遣返聲請的開支節節上升，當中包括為聲請人提供人道援助及公費法律支援等，預計下個財政年度的總開支達 6.44 億元，較三年前上升 64%，其中，法律支援更激加近 86%，至今尚有 9,600 多宗個案需處理。而過去數年完成審核的 5,500 多宗聲請個案中，僅得 25 宗獲確立，即每一千名申請人中，僅得 4 人是真正需要人道保護。

任何人士偷渡來港並聲稱在其國家受不人道對待、逼害等，可向入境事務處申請酷刑聲請，有關申請人則可獲免被遣返。根據入境處的數字顯示，過去用於處理酷刑聲請相關工作的開支節節上升，由 12 至 13 年度的 3.9 億多萬元，上升至下年度的 6.44 億元，勁升 64%。而由 09 年至 14 年底，入境處完成審核 5,581 宗聲請，僅得 25 宗為確立的個案。

獲確立的個案中，包括 14 名斯里蘭卡人及 8 名約旦人。

政府去年 3 月起實施「統一審核機制」處理酷刑、逼害及不人道處遇等免遣返聲請，截至去年年底，累積 9,618 宗個案。當中，最多為巴基斯坦籍，有 2,166 人，其次是印度及孟加拉，分別有 1,760 人及 1,237 人。而有關聲請人在港涉及刑事罪行的個案亦不斷上升，撇除非法工作，他們涉刑事案的數字由一二年的 493 宗，上升至一四年的 738 宗，增幅近五成。

此外，為打擊外傭涉嫌濫用提早終止合約安排以轉換僱主，俗稱「跳工」，入境處一三年六月起加強審查外傭的工作申請，截至今年二月，入境處發現有 4,300 多宗懷疑跳工個案，當中 313 宗已遭入境處拒絕，相信有關措施可有效遏止「跳工」的情況。

本港雖然自一三年禁止內地「雙非」孕婦來港產子，惟仍有不少人欲「搏懵」闖關。由去年 4 月至今年 2 月，入境處在各口岸截查 51,000 多名懷疑內地孕婦，當中 5,100 多人遭拒絕入境。雖然本港拒絕內地雙非孕婦來港產子，惟對內地人才則來者不拒，去年約有一萬名非本地畢業生留港或回港就業，93%為內地畢業生，當中，逾七成人擁有碩士學歷。